

# Let It Snow!

***Northeast US braces for possible historic blizzard***

A cyclist makes his way on a lightly snow-covered road. A blizzard of potentially historic proportions threatens to strike the Northeastern United States with a vengeance today, Friday, February 8th, 2013.  
(AP Photo/dpa, Arno Burgi)  
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# EU leaders open tough fight at budget summit

**RAF CASERT  
S. DILORENZO  
Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — European Union leaders drew hard lines Thursday as they opened a summit to decide EU spending for the next seven years, reflecting deep divisions about the role of their union. On one side, countries led by Britain are insisting that the EU has to make the same drastic cuts that member nations themselves are making in their own budgets as they weather the continent's economic and debt crises. They want tens of billions of euros slashed off the €1.03 trillion (\$1.35 trillion) originally asked for by the European Commission, the EU's executive arm. On the other, newer — and generally poorer — members see Europe as a club that is only as strong as its weakest member. Led by Poland and France, they argue that Europe means nothing if the bud-

get isn't used to bridge the wealth gap and help restart growth. Both sides are threatening to walk away from the table — again — if they don't get what they want. The first summit to negotiate a budget collapsed in November. In a sign of how tough the fight Thursday night will be, leaders delayed the official start of the summit for nearly six hours as they huddled in smaller groups, trying to bridge their differences. The full meeting with all 27 leaders finally got under way just before 9 p.m. (2000 GMT; 3 p.m. EDT). Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker warned that failure to reach an agreement at this meeting would "not send a good signal" as the union struggles to win back the trust lost during its economic crisis. The 27-country EU, with a population of more than 500 million people and an annual gross domestic product of €12

trillion (\$16 trillion), is the world's largest economy. The EU budget, which is separate from the national budgets, is designed in part to balance out the economic development of the region by injecting funding into poorer countries. The EU has funded hundreds of thousands of infrastructure and capital projects over the years, from the installation of a broadband

network to upgrading parts of the road network. It also sends development aid around the world, to places like Mali. The budget includes items meant to generate economic growth in the future, such as research and development, increasing digitalization and creating a new, more accurate satellite navigation system. It also funds regulation and ad-

ministration in such areas as mergers and competition, the review of national budgets to ensure they do not include excessive deficits, and — now — banking supervision. As the talks began, the leaders were set to negotiate tooth and nail over an annual difference to the average European taxpayer of €20 (\$27). The most generous budget proposal would cost the average taxpayer €295 (\$400) a year; the most pared-down proposal would cost €275 (\$373).

The EU's budget for 2012 is €147.2 billion (\$199.4 billion) — less than one-fifth the size of the budget of the U.K. alone.

Juncker's advice aside, leaders staked out uncompromising positions before the meeting began.

"We have to make savings, but without weakening the economy," said French President Francois Hollande on his way into the summit in Brussels. □



**President of the European Central Bank (ECB) Mario Draghi laughs during the press conference at the ECB headquarter after a council meeting in Frankfurt Germany, Thursday Feb. 7, 2013. (AP Photo/dpa, Boris Roessler)**

## Year of the snake promises less HK volatility

**KELVIN CHAN  
Associated Press**

**HONG KONG (AP)** — As the Year of the Snake slithers into sight, investors should take comfort that the rep-

tile's traditionally negative effect on stock markets probably won't be so big this year, according to the astrological predictions of a Hong Kong brokerage.

CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets released its annual "feng shui" index on Wednesday ahead of the Chinese lunar new year, which begins Feb. 10. The report is

based on the signs of the Chinese zodiac and features lighthearted predictions for financial markets, property and celebrities. Feng shui is the Chinese practice of arranging objects and choosing dates to improve luck.

"The snake is a skin shedder. That signifies radical changes," said Mariana Kou, CLSA's "sorcerer's apprentice."

The report noted that previous snake years have been associated with major turmoil such as the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the brutal government crackdown on protesters in Tiananmen Square in 1989 and the start of the Great Depression in 1929. Stock markets have often ended lower in recent snake years.

However, in 2013 there is "good balance on the five fundamental elements," fire, water, earth, metal and wood, which should rein in any significant upheaval, said Kou, whose

official title at CLSA is research associate.

The brokerage's predictions, focused mostly on Hong Kong's stock market, are strictly tongue in cheek but feng shui, which translates as "wind water", is followed religiously by many investors in the southern Chinese city in the belief that it will help boost wealth.

Emily Lam, another "sorcerer's apprentice" who in real life is an institutional salesperson, outlined the industries that would benefit in the year of the "black water snake."

"As the water snake enters the picture, she brings along a lot of water on heavenly stems. This will counteract with the earthly branches, favoring transport, logistics, shipping, gambling, tourism and infrastructure."

Lam said metal is also positive, boding well for banking and financials, currency trading, autos and commodities. □



**From left, CLSA Institutional Sales Emily Lam, research associate Oliver Lam, Mariana Kou and Head of Hong Kong and China Strategy Francis Cheung pose before a press conference as they prepare to unveil their feng shui index in Hong Kong Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013 ahead of the Lunar New Year. CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets released on Wednesday its annual "feng shui" index. The report is based on the signs of the Chinese zodiac and features lighthearted predictions for financial markets, property and celebrities. The year of the snake in the Chinese lunar calendar begins Feb. 10. (AP Photo/Vincent Yu)**

# NEW ARRIVALS

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## Northeast US braces for possible historic blizzard

**BRIDGET MURPHY**  
**Associated Press**

**BOSTON (AP)** — A blizzard of potentially historic proportions threatened to strike the Northeast with a vengeance today, with 1 to 2 feet of snow feared along the densely populated Interstate 95 corridor from the New York City area to Boston and beyond.

From Pennsylvania to Maine, people rushed to stock up on food and other storm supplies, and road crews readied salt and sand, halfway through what was looking like a merciful winter. Boston and Providence, R.I., called off school on Friday, and airlines canceled more than 500 flights and counting, with the disruptions certain to ripple across the U.S. Forecasters said this could be one for the record books.

"This one doesn't come along every day. This is going to be a dangerous winter storm," said Alan Dunham, meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Taunton, Mass. "Wherever you need to get to, get there by this afternoon and don't plan on leaving."

The snow is expected to start this morning, with the heaviest amounts falling

at night and into Saturday. Wind gusts could reach 65 mph. Widespread power failures were feared, along with flooding in coastal

plows and 250,000 tons of salt were being put on standby.

"We hope forecasts are exaggerating the amount

including Hartford, Conn., and Providence. The warnings extended into New Hampshire and Maine.

In New England, it could

well over a year ago — the Halloween storm of 2011.

Dunham said southern New England has seen less than half its normal snowfall this season, but "we're going to catch up in a heck of a hurry."

"Everybody's going to get plastered with snow," he said.

Diane Lopes was among the shoppers who packed a supermarket Thursday in the coastal fishing city of Gloucester, Mass. She said she went to a different grocery earlier in the day but it was too crowded. Lopes said she has strep throat and normally wouldn't leave the house but had to stock up on basic foods — "and lots of wine."

She chuckled at the excitement the storm was creating in a place where snow is routine.

"Why are us New Englanders so crazy, right?" she said.

In New Hampshire, Dartmouth College student Evan Diamond and other members of the ski team were getting ready for races at the Ivy League school's winter carnival.

"We're pretty excited about it because this has been an unusual winter for us," he said. □



**A worker walks up towards a plow smoothing a large salt pile at Eastern Salt Company in Chelsea, Mass., Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, in preparation for a major winter storm headed toward the U.S. Northeast. The National Weather Service calls for up to 2 feet of snow expected for a Boston-area region that has seen mostly bare ground this winter.**

(AP Photo/Elise Amendola)

areas still recovering from Superstorm Sandy in October.

Boston could get up to 2 feet of snow, while New York City was expecting 10 to 14 inches. Mayor Michael Bloomberg said

of snow, but you never can tell," he said.

Blizzard warnings were posted for parts of New Jersey and New York's Long Island, as well as portions of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut,

prove to be among the top 10 snowstorms in history, and perhaps even break Boston's record of 27.6 inches, set in 2003, forecasters said.

The last major snowfall in southern New England was



**Brennan:**

# Drone strikes used only for major threats

**KIMBERLY DOZIER**  
**AP Intelligence Writer**  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** —

Nominated to head the CIA, John Brennan told a protest-disrupted Senate confirmation hearing Thursday the United States employs drone strikes only as a deterrent against imminent terrorist threats, not as punishment for previous attacks, firmly defending the controversial attacks that have targeted Americans as well as foreigners overseas.

"Nothing could be further from the truth," he said of the idea that the U.S. uses the strikes by unmanned aircraft as retaliation.

On another thorny topic, under sometimes-combative questioning from senators, he conceded that after years of intelligence work he is uncertain whether the use of waterboarding in interrogations has yielded valuable information.

He declined several times to say whether waterboarding is torture, but he did say it is "something that is reprehensible and should never be done again."

In hours of questioning from the Senate Intelligence Committee, Brennan made repeated general pledges to increase the flow of information to members of the panel, but he was less specific when it came to individual cases. Asked at one point whether he would provide a list of countries where the Central Intelligence Agency

has used lethal authority, he replied, "It would be my intention to do everything possible" to comply.

At another point, he said he had no second thoughts about having opposed a planned strike against Osama bin Laden in 1998, a few months before the bombings of two U.S. embassies. The plan

White House. Any thought he had of becoming CIA director four years ago vanished amid questions about the role he played at the CIA when the Bush administration approved waterboarding and other forms of "enhanced interrogation" of suspected terrorists.

In a statement at the be-

interests, Israel's security, our Arab partners and the prospects for peace and stability throughout the region." Additionally, he said that Iran and North Korea "remain bent on pursuing nuclear weapons and intercontinental ballistic missile delivery systems."

The hearing was interrupted repeatedly — once be-



**Protesters from CODEPINK, a group opposed to U.S. militarism, including co-founder Medea Benjamin, center, disrupt the start of the Senate Intelligence Committee confirmation hearing for John Brennan, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, on Capitol Hill in Washington.**

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

was not "well-grounded," he said, adding that other intelligence officials also recommended against proceeding. Brennan was at the CIA at the time.

Brennan is a veteran of more than three decades in intelligence work, and is currently serving as Obama's top counterterrorism adviser in the

gining of Thursday's session, Brennan said the United States remains at war with al-Qaida and other terrorists and is under "daily cyberattack" by foreign countries and others.

He said historic transformations continue sweeping through the Middle East and North Africa, with "major implications for our

fore it began and then several times before Brennan had completed his preliminary remarks. At one point, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat and the panel's chairman, briefly ordered the proceedings halted and the room cleared so those re-entering could be screened to block obvious protesters. □

## US officials fault FAA in missing 787 battery risk

**C. DREW**  
**JAD MOUAWAD**

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The nation's top transportation safety official said Thursday that the Federal Aviation Administration accepted test results from Boeing in 2007 that failed to properly assess the risks of smoke or fire leaking from the batteries on Boeing's new 787 jets.

Deborah Hersman, the chairwoman of the National Transportation Safety Board, told reporters that Boeing's tests had predicted that the batteries on its new 787 planes were likely to emit smoke less than once in every 10 million flight hours — and showed no indication that the batteries could erupt in flames. But once the planes were placed in service, she said, the batteries overheated and smoked twice last month, and caused one fire, after fewer than 100,000 hours of commercial flights.

"The assumptions used to certify the batteries must be reconsidered," Hersman said.

She said Boeing's tests before the battery was certified, which the FAA oversaw, found no evidence that a short circuit in one of the battery's eight cells could spread to other cells. But Hersman said the fire on a 787 parked at an airport in Boston on Jan. 7 started with a short circuit in one cell and then spread to the other cells.

She said investigators have still not been able to tell what caused the short-circuit in that cell and led to a "thermal runaway," overheating up to 500 degrees, that then cascaded to the rest of the cells.

"This investigation has demonstrated that a short-circuit in a single cell can propagate to adjacent cells and result in a fire," she said. □

## Scouts face pressure on no-gays policy vote

**DAVID CRARY**  
**N. MERCHANT**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — It promises to be a campaign as passionate and dramatic as any big election. For the next 14 weeks, the Boy Scouts of America will be the focus of prayers, petitions and pressure tactics aimed at swaying a vote on whether to ease its ban on gays as Scouts or adult leaders.

The decision will be made

the week of May 20 by the roughly 1,400 voting members of the BSA's National Council. The policy was supposed to be settled Wednesday by the Scouts' 70-member national executive board, but board members said the issue so complex, the organization needed more time to study it.

At stake is a proposal to ease the ban that would allow sponsors of local Scout units to decide for

themselves whether to admit gays. Gay-rights groups say the plan is inadequate, and that no units should be allowed to discriminate. Some conservative religious leaders and advocacy groups want the ban to stay in place nationwide. Both sides are girding for intensive lobbying between now and late May, hoping to influence the outcome. "Keep the pressure on," was the message Thursday from the Gay & Lesbian Al-

liance Against Defamation to its supporters.

GLAAD, which has been active in several recent campaigns opposing the ban, provided information on how to telephone or email BSA headquarters, and offered suggestions for how to advocate using Twitter and Facebook.

"Take action!" GLAAD exhorted. "Send a message to the Boy Scouts that we won't rest until they end the ban." □



# Panetta defends military response in Libya attack

DONNA CASSATA  
RICHARD LARDNER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said Thursday that the speed of the attack

who were killed as the Pentagon chief defended the military's response on a chaotic Sept. 11 day.

Testifying for likely the last time on Capitol Hill before stepping down,

and other countries while trying to move quickly to respond to two separate assaults six hours apart in Benghazi.

The positioning of military teams far from the U.S.

Americans. "The United States military is not and should not be a global 911 service capable of arriving on the scene within minutes to every possible contingency around the world," Panetta told the Senate Armed Services Committee. Army Gen. Martin Dempsey echoed the argument that the military did what its location allowed, which angered Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who accused the Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman of peddling falsehoods.

"For you to testify that our posture did not allow a rapid response, did not take into account threats to our consulate ... is simply false," McCain told Dempsey. McCain contended that the military's capability

allowed armed forces to intervene in short order.

Dempsey said he stood by his testimony, "your dispute of it notwithstanding." The general said the military was concerned with multiple threats worldwide and, based on time and positioning of forces, "we wouldn't have gotten there in time."

Between midnight and 2 a.m. on the night of the attack, Panetta issued orders, telling two Marine anti-terrorism teams based in Rota, Spain, to prepare to deploy to Libya, and he ordered a team of special operations forces in Central Europe and another team of special operations forces in the U.S. to prepare to deploy to a staging base in Europe. □



Outgoing Defense Secretary Leon Panetta testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, before the Senate Armed Services Committee about the Pentagon's role in responding to the attack last year on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, where the ambassador and three other Americans were killed.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, kept U.S. armed forces from responding in time to save the four Americans

Panetta said the Obama administration was trying to assess the threat from protests in Tunisia, Egypt, the Libyan capital of Tripoli

installation made it difficult to respond swiftly, he said. The assault claimed the lives of Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other

## At Press Time:

# Massive manhunt on for ex-police accused of killing 3 in Los Angeles

TAMI ABDOLLAH  
SHAYA MOHAJER  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Thousands of police officers throughout Southern California and neighboring states hunted Thursday for a disgruntled former Los Angeles officer wanted for going on a deadly shooting rampage that he warned in an online posting would target those on the force who wronged him, authorities said.

Police issued a statewide "officer safety warning" and police were sent to protect people named in the posting that was believed to be written by the fired officer, Christo-

pher Dorner, who has military training. Among those mentioned were members of the Los Angeles Police Department.

"I will bring unconventional and asymmetrical warfare to those in LAPD uniform whether on or off duty," said the manifesto. It also asserted: "Unfortunately, I will not be alive to see my name cleared. That's what this is about, my name. A man is nothing without his name."

Dorner has available multiple weapons including an assault rifle, said police Chief Charlie Beck, who urged Dorner to surrender. "Nobody else needs to die," he said.

More than 40 protection

details were assigned to possible targets of Dorner. Police spokesman Cmdr. Andrew Smith said he couldn't remember a larger manhunt by the department.

The hunt spread from California to Nevada, Arizona and Mexico, said a U.S. Marshals Service official who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to publicly comment.

A report of a burned pickup truck near the Big Bear ski area came under investigation. TV news helicopters showed a rifle-equipped team being delivered to the area in the San Bernardino Mountains. □

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# Gun lobby: Gun controls won't pass Congress

**IVAN MORENO**  
**KRISTEN WYATT**  
**Associated Press**

DENVER (AP) — The head of the powerful U.S. gun lobby, the National Rifle Association, said Thursday he's confident that Congress won't approve an assault weapons ban or a limit on high-capacity ammunition magazines after mass shootings in Colorado and Connecticut.

David Keene predicted failure for all congressional measures related to guns, including expanded background checks for gun purchases.

"I tell you what these things are, these are all feel-good proposals, because at the end of the day, what do they do to prevent" a mass shooter? asked Keene, the

NRA's president.

Keene was in Denver to meet with Colorado's Democratic governor and state lawmakers.

He met with The Associated Press for an interview before sitting down with

state officials.

The interview comes as the Obama administration is trying to push several gun control measures through Congress in the wake of the shooting of 26 people, including 20 children, at

an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut in December and other high-profile shootings around the country.

Keene talked about prospects for federal gun control measures under discussion in Congress and predicted political peril for Democrats who support such bills.

"The Senate's where the action's going to be," Keene said. "The House is sort of sitting back, and you can almost hear the House Republican leadership saying under their breath, you know, go ahead. We've got a few members that wouldn't mind sitting in the Senate. If you do this, maybe they will. So the Senate leadership is much more cautious."

Colorado U.S. Sen. Mark Udall, a Democrat, said he disagreed with Keene's assertion that Congress would do nothing.

"In the wake of recent mass shootings, including one in Colorado, the status quo on gun violence is simply unacceptable," Udall said in a statement. "Colora-

dans expect and deserve better than continued inaction from Congress. I simply disagree that Congress cannot or should not try to reduce mass shootings and gun violence."

In recent weeks, Keene has become an increasingly public figure for the powerful gun rights group in the ongoing debate on gun control. He has offered a softer, if equally staunch voice for the gun lobby's ideas as compared with Wayne LaPierre, the fiery executive vice president who remains the NRA's most prominent voice on the public stage.

Keene has been active with the NRA for decades, starting as a board member before being elected the group's president in 2011.

Keene on Thursday called universal background checks a political "sweet spot" but said the plan won't work in practice. He says current background check systems are underfunded and that requiring background checks on private sales would be a logistical mess. □



**David Keene, president of the National Rifle Association, speaks during an exclusive interview with Associated Press reporters in Denver on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013.**

(AP Photo/Ed Andrieski)



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# US Amish set for sentencing in beard attacks

THOMAS J. SHEERAN

Associated Press

BERGHOLZ, Ohio (AP) —

More than 50 Amish children could lose one parent to prison — and most of the youngest could lose both — on Friday when 16 men and women are sentenced in beard-cutting attacks on fellow members of their faith.

Most defendants could face as long as 10 years in prison and are asking the judge for leniency so they can return to their homes and farms, teaching their sons a trade and their daughters how to sew, cook and keep house.

But their bid faces an uphill battle. Victims of the 2011 attacks, which the government called a hate crime and an attempt by a splinter group to shame members who left or denounced it, say justice is needed, especially for the ringleader.

In a rare interview last week in Bergholz at the community's sprawling farm amid rolling hills in eastern Ohio, unmarried 19-year-old Edward Mast, grandson of ring leader Sam Mullet Sr., said he is anticipating a life of mentoring Amish chil-



Amish leader Sam Mullet standing in front of his home in Bergholz, Ohio.

(AP Photo/Amy Sancelletta)

dren and sharing in child-rearing if the parents go to prison.

While he spoke, a 15-year-old used a chain saw to cut fence planks and a 12-year-old crisply drove nails into the planks as a 10-year-old held up the board.

The youngest trudged in boots through ankle-deep mud and a creek surging with melting snow.

Prison terms will make the whole operation harder to maintain, Mast told The Associated Press.

"It will be a mess," he said, shaking his head under a wide-brim hat.

Mullet broke away from

the mainstream Amish in 1995, seeking stricter cultural rules and Scriptural interpretation than is the norm in the eastern Ohio community, authorities said.

He was the undisputed leader of his group, counseling relatives on religious matters, negotiating drilling rights on his land and denouncing Amish who questioned his authority.

Mullet's community, like many Amish groups, grew through marriage and the purchase of farmland to sustain extended families that work and pray together, mostly shut off from outside influences like electricity, autos and electronics.

Amish communities have a highly insular, modest lifestyle, are deeply religious and believe in following the Bible, which they believe instructs women to let their hair grow long and men to grow beards and stop shaving once they marry.

Contact with the modern world is limited, and glimpses from the news media inside Amish communities even rarer.

The five beard- and hair-cutting attacks followed years of animosity, traced

in part to a nasty custody battle involving Mullet's daughter and his strict demands on religious observance.

The custody dispute led to a contentious history with local law enforcement over the county's seizure of two Mullet granddaughters from their mother.

One of Mullet's daughters-in-law and a former brother-in-law told investigators that he allowed others to beat members who disobeyed him, according to an affidavit. □

## Restored payroll tax hitting those with smallest checks

NELSON D. SCHWARTZ

© 2013 New York Times

Jack Andrews and his wife no longer enjoy what they call date night, their once-a-month outing to the movies and a steak dinner in Augusta, Ga. And in Harlem, Eddie Phillips' life insurance payment will have to wait a few more weeks.

Like millions of other Americans, they are feeling the bite from the sharp increase in payroll taxes that took effect at the beginning of January. There are growing signs that the broader economy is suffering, too. Chain-store sales have weakened over the course of the month. And two surveys released last

week suggested that consumer confidence was eroding, especially among lower-income Americans. While these data points are preliminary at street level, the pain from the expiration of a 2 percentage point break in Social Security taxes in 2011 and 2012 is plain to see. "You got to stretch what you got," said Phillips, 51, who earned \$22,000 last year. "That little \$20 or \$30 affects you, especially if you're just making enough money to stay above water." "I'm playing catch-up each month," he said. The tax break, which was pushed by the White House to stimulate spending in 2011 and extended

in 2012, was always supposed to be temporary. But with pressure building in Washington to reduce the deficit and politicians fighting bitterly over whether to raise taxes on the very rich, the question of how the increase in Social Security taxes would affect the poorest workers did not garner much debate on either side of the aisle.

"If you wanted to design a policy to squeeze the spending of lower- and middle-income households, raising the payroll tax is the way to do it," said Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomic Advisors. □

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## US, Japan, Australia flex military muscles in Pacific

ERIC TALMADGE

Associated Press

**ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam (AP)** —

Fighter jets from the U.S. and two key allies roared into western Pacific skies Thursday in the combat phase of annual exercises that have gained importance as the region responds to the rise of China and other potential threats.

The Cope North drills — which could soon swell in participants — are aimed at preparing air forces of the U.S., Japan and Australia to fight together if a

military crisis erupts. They also send a vivid reminder to Beijing that America's regional alliances are strong, though officers leading the maneuvers say they are not looking to bait the Chinese military.

"The training is not against a specific country, like China," Japan Air Self-Defense Force Lt. Gen. Masayuki Hironaka said. "However, I think (the fact) that our alliance with the U.S. and Australia is healthy is a strong message."

The three allies began flying sorties together earlier

in the week around the U.S. territory of Guam in a humanitarian phase of the exercises, dropping emergency assistance in packages that wafted down under parachutes to jungle airfields. On Thursday, fighter jets were joined by bombers, transport planes and tankers that refuel the fighters in midair. For the

ing Chinese military, which has been briskly improving its forces and using its growing muscle to back up territorial claims that have raised regional tensions. This "Pacific rebalance" will bring newer and more advanced aircraft and ships to the Pacific theater over the next several years and spread out the tens of thou-

ity to intervene in a crisis, particularly around Taiwan or islands in the south and east China seas that are contested by China and U.S. allies such as the Philippines and Japan.

But the emphasis on alliance-building through exercises like Cope North also underscores fears in the Pentagon that major bud-



Members of the 374th Airlift Wing of U.S. Air Force work on a C-130 aircraft during the Cope North military exercises at Andersen U.S. Air Force Base in Guam Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013.

(AP Photo/Koji Ueda)

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first time, Japanese tankers were joining the drills.

U.S. officials said they believe more allies, particularly New Zealand and the Philippines, will join the exercises soon.

Maneuvers like Cope North are a key element of Washington's evolving strategy in the Pacific as the U.S. shifts its emphasis away from Afghanistan and fighting ground wars. It is now placing more attention on Asia and the possibility of an air or sea confrontation with the rapidly moderniz-

sands of U.S. troops now primarily based in Japan and South Korea. U.S. Marines have already begun rotational deployments to Darwin, in northern Australia, and about 9,000 Marines stationed on the southern Japan island of Okinawa are to be moved to this tiny island, Hawaii and other locations.

The changes reflect a deepening strategic concern over the rise of China as a regional military power with the potential to challenge Washington's abil-

get cuts looming in Congress could make it difficult for Washington to shoulder the whole burden of keeping China in check.

Pacific Air Forces commander Gen. Herbert Carlisle said he believes the budget cuts now being considered could threaten America's role as a superpower. He noted that China's military, and especially its navy, have been undergoing a "massive buildup" and are becoming a more credible challenge to their U.S. counterparts. □



# Leaders at Islamic summit back Syria dialogue

**HAMZA HENDAWI**  
**ZEINA KARAM**

**Associated Press**

**CAIRO (AP)** — Leaders at an Islamic summit on Thursday urged a dialogue between the Syrian opposition and regime just as a new initiative for talks proposed by an anti-government leader appeared to be unraveling.

Like previous diplomatic initiatives on Syria, opposition chief Mouaz al-Khatib's call for talks made less than a week ago appeared doomed to failure. And with troops and rebels clashing for a second day around Damascus, frustrated Syrians dismissed the calls for dialogue as empty talk. "All of this does not concern us," said Iyad, a Syrian fighter on the outskirts of the capital Damascus, which has witnessed heavy fighting in the last two days.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, whose country is Syria's closest ally in the Middle East, attended the summit and said at a news conference Thursday that he supported dialogue. He added that Egypt, Turkey and Iran were moving toward cooperation on Syria. But he also defended Bashar Assad regime, warning

against meddling in the domestic affairs of other countries. The Syrian civil war is largely at a stalemate, with neither side making significant battlefield gains likely to bring about a military victory any time soon.

But the international community has been at a loss for ways to end the carnage, with both sides showing no real interest in a political settlement.

At the end of a two-day summit in Cairo, the 57-member Organization of Islamic Cooperation urged Syrian opposition forces and members of the regime whose hands are not tainted by violence to hold talks on resolving the nearly 2-year-old conflict.

In the final statement of the conference, they called for concrete efforts to reach a settlement "that would preserve the rights of the Syrian people and ensure the unity and the safety of their land." The statement did not specifically refer to the recent dialogue offer by al-Khatib, who has said he would be willing to sit down with regime members on condition they release 160,000 political prisoners. His offer sparked criticism from fellow opposition activists who say the regime has killed too many

people to play a role in the conflict's solution.

On Thursday, al-Khatib appeared to be backing away from the offer. He demanded that the regime release all female political prisoners by Sunday or he would scrap his initiative. "The regime has until Sunday to begin releasing detainees, especially women. This should be the introduction of prisoners' release," he told BBC Arabic in an interview. □

Al-Khatib's offer followed meetings he had held separately with Russian, U.S. and Iranian officials on the sidelines of a security

ditions.

Many of al-Khatib's colleagues in the Syrian National Coalition say President Assad must step down before there can be any negotiations.

Participants at the Cairo summit did not call on Assad to step down, but the meeting exposed conflicting views among Muslim and Arab nations about the Syrian civil war. At past summits, many nations, including Egypt, demanded that Assad go.

Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, elected after an uprising ousted his authoritarian predecessor

and grasp its immortal message: It is the people who remain and those who put their personal interests before those of their people will inevitably go."

The summit's final statement also stressed support for a working group proposed by Morsi last year, made up of the leaders of Egypt, Turkey, Iran and Saudi Arabia to address the Syria crisis.

But Saudi Arabia only attended the quartet's first meeting several months ago and Saudi Crown Prince Salman, who was heading his country's delegation to the OIC summit, left Egypt just before the mini-summit was held Wednesday.

Egyptian officials insist that the Saudis have not pulled out, and an Egyptian presidential spokesman said Salman left because of other, personal engagements. The Saudi foreign minister stayed to attend the OIC summit.

But it is widely suspected that the kingdom has quit the group because they could not see the point of working with arch rival Iran, Assad's most ardent backer. Ahmadinejad was asked to comment about the Saudi stance at his news conference in Cairo. "We don't know why they left and we are not in a position to speak for them," he told reporters. □



**Mohammed Morsi, center, confers with others attending the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Summit in Cairo, Egypt, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013.**

(AP Photo/Egyptian Presidency)

conference in Munich last weekend. Russia and Iran are Syria's two closest allies.

The government has ignored his offer. But one lawmaker said the talks should be without precon-

sor Hosni Mubarak, sharply criticized Assad's embattled regime in his address to the summit. But he did not directly call for him to go as he had in the past. He said the Syrian government "must read history

## Egyptians abuzz over PM's insensitive talk

**MAGGIE MICHAEL**  
**Associated Press**

**CAIRO (AP)** — Egypt's prime minister faced uproar, derision and even lawsuits Thursday after he blamed health problems of babies in impoverished villages on nursing mothers who "out of ignorance" don't clean their breasts and talked of village women getting raped in the fields. Hesham Kandil made the remarks as he tried to make a point about poverty at a press conference aired live on TV this week. The backlash put the previously little known technocrat appointed by Islamist Presi-

dent Mohammed Morsi under a spotlight.

Rights advocates and activists said Thursday it showed a prime minister who is out of his depth — and who holds elitist and patriarchal attitudes that blame poor women for everything from not bringing their children up right to bringing dishonor on society. A number of lawyers in Beni Sweif, a province Kandil mentioned specifically, filed lawsuits against him, accusing him of libel, an official at the top prosecutor's office said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to talk to the press.





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# Ireland seals ECB deal to slash bank bailout costs

**S. POGATCHNIK**  
**Associated Press**

**DUBLIN (AP)** — Ireland clinched a long-sought agreement Thursday with the European Central Bank to restructure the loans used to bail out its failing banks, a deal expected to reduce the national debt by €20 billion (\$27 billion) in the coming decade and help the country's expected exit from its own international bailout.

Red-eyed lawmakers applauded Prime Minister Enda Kenny as he announced the breakthrough after more than a year of negotiations with ECB governors. The deal should allow Ireland, which has imposed severe austerity measures since 2009, to reduce planned cuts and tax hikes in coming years. His announcement came hours after lawmakers voted to dissolve a government-owned "bad bank," the Irish Bank Resolution Corp. — the focal point for Ireland's divisive 2010 agreement negotiated with the ECB to repay foreign bank bondholders in

full. That agreement had required Ireland to make annual repayments of €3.06 billion (\$4.1 billion) through 2023 and more payments through 2031 totaling €48 billion, including 8 percent interest.

Kenny said ECB governors had agreed to replace that crippling formula with new Irish government bonds that won't need to be repaid for a generation. He said Ireland for more than two decades would pay only the annual interest-rate payments, or yields, on the bonds until they start maturing in 2038, sharply reducing current payments and shaving more than €1 billion (\$1.35 billion) off next year's budget deficit.

"In effect, we have replaced a short-term, high-interest-rate overdraft that had to be paid down quickly through more expensive borrowings, with long-term, cheap, interest-only loans," Kenny said.

Finance Minister Michael Noonan said the annual yields of the bonds would float in line with market

expectations, currently between 3 percent and 3.5 percent, reflecting Ireland's improving reputation among foreign creditors as a country that pays its bills and doesn't default. Kenny, who rose to power two years ago on a pledge to slash Ireland's bank-bailout costs, said Ireland's improved power to reduce its deficits should help the country end its reliance this year on loans from Euro-

pean Union partners and the International Monetary Fund.

Ireland was forced to take the EU-IMF bailout in 2010 as the cost of rescuing Ireland's six banks destroyed the government's own ability to borrow. Ireland ultimately was forced to nationalize five banks.

The government created IBRC just two years ago to hold the battered loan books and impaired prop-

erty assets of Ireland's two most reckless property speculators, Anglo Irish Bank and Irish Nationwide Building Society. The pursuit of those defaulting debtors, and the management of an IBRC property portfolio valued at €12 billion, will be transferred to Ireland's much bigger "bad bank" for toxic property-based loans, the National Asset Management Agency or NAMA. □

## Survey:

## Half of Greeks unable to pay their bills



People reach out for fresh produce handouts by street fruit and vegetable market stall keepers during a peaceful protest outside the Ministry of Agriculture in Athens.

(AP Photo/Thanassis Stavrakis)

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — Half of Greek households were unable to pay their bills in 2012, forcing them

to borrow money from relatives or run up their debts, according to a new survey. The study commissioned

by the small and medium sized business association GSEVEE and published Thursday found 49.8 percent of households fell behind on bills and expenses last year, 48.3 percent managed to cover costs, and just 1.8 percent saved money.

The study found 93.1 percent said they had suffered a loss in income since Greece's financial crisis began in late 2009, while 33.1 percent borrowed money from relatives or friends in 2012.

Debt-strapped Greece has been surviving on rescue loans from the Eurozone and International Monetary Fund since 2010. The survey of 1,207 households was carried out Dec. 10-19. □



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# Iran's supreme leader rejects direct talks with U.S.

THOMAS ERDBRINK

© 2013 New York Times

**TEHRAN, Iran** — Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, rejected any idea of bilateral talks with the United States on Thursday in a speech in which he scoffed at Iranian officials who might consider such negotiations.

A staunch ideologue who has often rejected dialogue with America, Khamenei was apparently responding to a United States offer of one-on-one negotiations between the two countries on a range of topics, including Iran's disputed nuclear program, a suggestion that Vice President Joe Biden reinforced last week during a security conference in Munich. The Iranian foreign minister said then he was open to such talks, although Biden noted that they could proceed only if the ayatollah showed serious interest.

The ayatollah's objection is an edict to which other Iranian officials, including President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, must adhere, and it comes after several high-ranking Iranian officials, including Ahmadinejad and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi, had said the Obama administration had been taking positive steps toward Iran.

Khamenei was straightforward in his speech on Thursday before air force commanders in his Tehran office, which was reported on his website.

He said that while some "simple-minded people" might be happy about the prospect of bilateral talks, Iran had seen nothing from Washington other than the same conspiracies.

"The Iranian nation will not negotiate under pressure,"

he said. Noting the international sanctions against Iran, Khamenei said: "The U.S. is pointing a gun at Iran and wants us to talk to them."

The Iranian nation will not be intimidated by these actions."

"Direct talks will not solve any problems," he added. His remarks came after new restrictions were imposed on payments for Iranian oil Wednesday, a move that increased economic pressure on Iran, and as Iranian and Western officials said Iran had agreed to resume multilateral nuclear talks with world powers this month in Kazakhstan. The ayatollah's rejection of talks with the United States will not affect the Kazakhstan talks, set to begin Feb. 26.

He said the United States was desperate for talks because its policy in the Middle East had failed.

"They need to draw a trump card," he said. "Their trump card is urging Iran to sit at the negotiating table."

"I'm not a diplomat, I'm a revolutionary, and speak frankly and directly," he said. "If anyone wants the return of U.S. dominance here, people will grab his throat."

His speech was a reaction to continuing U.S. sanctions against Iran, people close to him said.

"There is no room for any optimism," said Hamid Reza Taraghi, an influential politician. Pointing to the new sanctions, decisions by U.S. courts to seize Iranian assets and the support for the opposition in Syria, where President Bashar Assad is Iran's last regional ally, he said, "We haven't seen anything good from the U.S." □



Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, gives a speech to a group of air force members, in Tehran, Iran, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013. Iran's supreme leader Thursday strongly rejected proposals for direct talks with the United States, effectively quashing suggestions for a breakthrough one-on-one dialogue on the nuclear standoff and potentially other issues. A portrait of the late revolutionary founder Ayatollah Khomeini, hangs on the wall.

(AP Photo/Office of the Supreme Leader)

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# Acapulco rape overshadows tourist season

**BERTHA RAMOS**  
**MARK STEVENSON**  
**Associated Press**

**ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP)**

— The tourism world turned its eyes on Mexico after six Spanish women were raped by masked gunmen during a vacation in the long-troubled Pacific coast resort of Acapulco.

While there has been talk of reviving the golden era of the '40s and '50s, international tourists have long steered away from Acapulco, even before the drug violence of recent years, as the city fell into disrepair and glitzier Cancun and Los Cabos gained favor.

The question now is whether the attack will affect other resorts as Mexico prepares for its annual spring break onslaught and peak season. The hours-long assault was carried out by a gang of masked gunmen who burst into the beach-front home before dawn on Monday and tied up the six men inside, then raped the women. A seventh Mexican woman was unharmed. "We are really sorry about what happened with the Spanish tourists because ... it is something that affects Mexico's image," said Juan Carlos Gonzalez, tourism secretary of Quintana Roo, the Caribbean coast state where Cancun is located and which hosted about 17 million tourists last year. But, he added, "we are definitely not as contaminated with the crime issue as other states in Mexico." Acapulco barely registers on U.S. tourists' radar anymore, said Kathy Gerhardt, a spokeswoman for Travel Leaders, a network of independently owned and operated travel agencies in the U.S. "Those individuals trying to lump Acapulco into the list of top Mexico destinations for U.S. travelers are simply misinformed," she said.

In a recent survey of over 1,000 travel agency owners, managers and agents, "not a single individual chose Acapulco as a top international destination they are booking for their clients," Gerhardt said.

"We do not see any spill-over effect," she added, for areas like Cancun, which Travel Leaders lists as the No. 2 foreign destination for U.S. travelers, after Caribbean island cruises.

From a 2009 shootout that killed 18 near Acapulco's fabled Flamingo Hotel to this week's attack, the resort once celebrated in Frank Sinatra songs and Elvis Presley movies has been the scene of body dumpings, beheadings and taxi-driver killings as gangs vie for drug transport routes once controlled by the now-decimated Beltran Leyva cartel. Oceania and

incredibly safe zone," said Rafael Gallego Nadal, president of the Spanish Confederation of Travel Agencies. "This was a terrible attack, but it's not the first time that something bad has happened in that part of Mexico."

He said there has been no talk of travel agencies reducing package tour prices.

Some press reports Wednesday suggested a drug purchase could have played a role in Monday's rapes, but Marcos Juarez, the chief investigator for Guerrero state prosecutors, said there was no evi-

give his name for safety reasons.

It was unclear whether the victims had been targeted because of their nationality.

Guerrero state Attorney General Martha Garzon told local media that the attackers' motive was robbery and that they drank mescal they found at the house. The Mexican woman, who is married to one of the Spaniards, "was saved by the fact that she is Mexican," Garzon said.

"She says she identified herself to the (attackers) and asked not to be raped, and they told her that she



**Mexican navy marines stand at a roadblock due to stepped up security after masked armed men broke into a beach home, raping six Spanish tourists who had rented the house in Acapulco, Mexico.**  
(AP Photo/Bernardino Hernandez)

Regent Seven Seas Cruises — some of the last lines making port calls in Acapulco — canceled those in December, before the latest attack. An estimated 50,000 Spaniards travel to Mexico each year, but mostly to the Caribbean coast, not Acapulco. Mexicans and Spaniards living in Mexico like the victims, however, flock to Acapulco during Easter week and other long holiday weekends, such as Monday, when the country celebrated its Constitution Day. Local tourists believe they can distinguish unsafe areas of the city, and even foreign travel warnings say it's safe for those who don't wander far from the beach. "For us, this is an

dence of that.

Still, the attack exposed a dangerous security situation in areas that had been considered safe, such as the laid-back stretch of beach dotted with restaurants, small hotels and homes southeast of the city's center, where the Spaniards had rented a villa. The five attackers held the group at gunpoint, tying up the six men with phone cords and bathing suit straps, then raping the six women over a three-hour period, authorities said. The manager of a hotel near the house said he heard shouting just after midnight Monday, but did nothing because he felt it would be too dangerous. The man did not want to

had passed the test by being Mexican and they didn't touch her," Garzon told Radio Formula.

While some Mexicans harbor resentment against Spaniards dating to colonial times, the victims may have been targeted for other reasons, such as appearance or possessions.

Mayor Luis Walton rushed to apologize Wednesday for his comment the day before that "this happens everywhere in the world, not just in Acapulco or in Mexico." "Of course, this worries us and we don't want anything like this to happen in Acapulco or anywhere else in the world," he said. "We know this is going to affect our tourism." □

## Colombia: Kidnapped Germans in good health

**L. CARDONA**  
**Associated Press**

**BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)**

Two German retirees who have been held captive for more than three months by leftist rebels are in good health, Colombia's anti-kidnapping police chief said Thursday.

The official, Gen. Humberto Guatibonza, also said at a news conference that the two were seized Nov. 3 by the National Liberation Army, or ELN, Colombia's No. 2. rebel group.

Brothers Guenther Otto Breuer, 72, and Uwe Breuer, 69, were detained while apparently on a global driving journey that had previously taken them to China, Iran, Iraq and much of South America.

The men were kidnapped in the town of Teorama in a turbulent coca-growing zone near Venezuela with a strong guerrilla presence, Guatibonza said. The ELN said it seized them in the nearby town of Convencion.

Guatibonza did not say how he obtained the information, citing only informants. He said they also told police that the ELN originally thought the Breuer brothers were oil workers.

In a communique Monday announcing the Germans' abduction, the rebel group said only that it had been holding the brothers for "several weeks" and that it would consider them spies until otherwise proven.

Guatibonza said he was withholding further information about the case at the request of the German government. He said the men had last been in touch with relatives on Sept. 30.

A video posted Wednesday evening on the website of the Colombian newsmagazine *Semana* bolstered the German Embassy's description of the two as retirees on vacation. □





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lene Dirksen from Cleveland, Ohio. Paul and Marlene love Aruba very much because of the friendly people of Aruba, the beaches, the beautiful weather and mostly the natural beauty on the east side of

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*Veronica Eid*

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## The Aruba Marriott Resort revamps wedding website

**PALM BEACH** - The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino solemnly vows to raise the ante on romance when it comes to planning and hosting weddings in the perfect Caribbean destination. Brides and grooms will be able to double down on a blissful adventure while enjoying the most romantic Aruba honeymoon and ceremony. From its world-class accommodations to its wide array of amenities, this truly spectacular site for an Aruba destination wedding sits directly on sandy white beaches overlooking the majestic ocean. The Aruba resort has just updated its wedding website to make it easier than ever for couples to scope out the facilities, check out rates and special packages, "meet" key staff members who will be assisting

them, read testimonials from fiancés, request additional information and book their accommodations. While checking out <http://www.weddings.arubamarriott.com> do-it-yourself brides and grooms will find a multitude of indoor and outdoor venues to choose from for their Aruba wedding. For couples seeking the ultimate indulgence, the Aruba resort's adult only Tradewinds Club features a hotel within the hotel with elite privileges including exclusive access to the Club Lounge. For information on planning a wedding at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, the sales and marketing department at 297-520-6621 or email [Abigail.vanderlinden@marriott-hotels.com](mailto:Abigail.vanderlinden@marriott-hotels.com) and [chela.delannoy@marriott-hotels.com](mailto:chela.delannoy@marriott-hotels.com). □



# Aruba has the Siemens Family Jumping for Joy!

**PALM BEACH** - The Siemens family, visiting all the way from Asunción, Paraguay, South America, is seen here capturing a priceless moment of their vacation on the beautiful and idyllic beach in front of the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort, in Palm Beach, Aruba! While every family has a great time enjoying Aruba's beaches, warm Caribbean waters, natural beauty, watersports, casinos, night-life, shopping and restaurants, the Siemens family is literally jumping for joy over the terrific vacation they are having here on the island! Janiv, Anita, Daniel, Axel, Annika and Nordahl Siemens (featured from left to right) have been enjoying the luxurious accommodations of the RIU Palace Hotel, situated on the world famous Palm Beach strip, Aruba! Many happy returns to the Siemens family: Enjoy the rest of your stay! □



Janiv, Anita, Daniel, Axel, Annika and Nordahl Siemens (featured from left to right), from Asunción, Paraguay, are seen jumping for joy on Aruba!

(Siemens Family Photo)

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# Fast Rental Karts at Bushiri Karting Speedway!

**EAGLE** - Many have discovered the place for the ultimate thrill while on vacation, which is Bushiri Karting Speedway, a great outdoor Go karting Track with fast rental Go karts available for anyone to rent. The place is surrounded with great ambiance and racing fans can challenge each other any day! We also have a Sports Bar called Fuel Sports Bar & Grill with good food, pool & foosball tables, big screens and a full liquor bar for everyone to chill before, during &



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can see how well you raced on a professional outdoor karting track in Aruba!

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In this Nov. 11, 2007, file photo, Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson (28) moves the ball during the first half of an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers in Green Bay, Wis.  
Associated Press

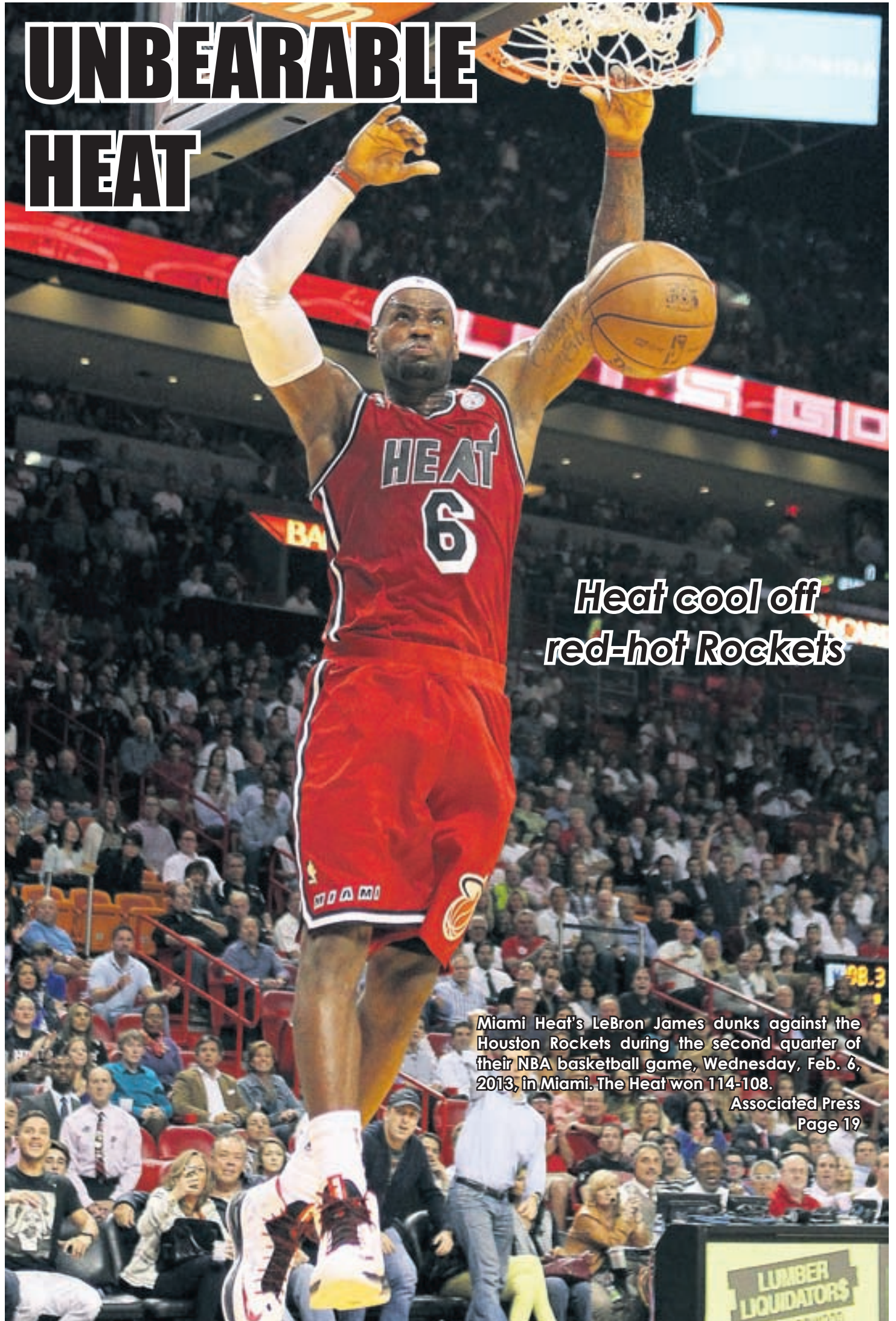
## Adrian Peterson has sports hernia surgery

**EDEN PRAIRIE, Minnesota (AP)** — Minnesota Vikings running back and NFL MVP Adrian Peterson had surgery for a sports hernia on Thursday.

The Vikings made the announcement on their website and say they "expect a speedy recovery with no long-term concerns." Peterson had the procedure in Philadelphia.

Peterson, who also was named offensive player of the year after returning from a torn ACL to rush for 2,097 yards, was bothered by an abdominal injury for the last month of the season. He sat out the fourth quarter against Houston in December, which may have kept him from breaking Eric Dickerson's single-season rushing record.

Peterson was still able to amass the second-most rushing yardage in league history and carry the Vikings to a playoff berth after the team finished 3-13 the prior season. □



## UNBEARABLE HEAT

*Heat cool off red-hot Rockets*

Miami Heat's LeBron James dunks against the Houston Rockets during the second quarter of their NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013, in Miami. The Heat won 114-108.

Associated Press  
Page 19



# Aussies win annual Empire State Building climb

**DEEPTI HAJELA**

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A pair of Australians won a race to the top — or to the 86th floor, anyway.

Aussies captured the top spots in the men's and women's races in the annual Empire State Building Run-Up on Wednesday night.

Mark Bourne won for the first time with a time of 10 minutes, 12 seconds. Fellow Aussie Suzy Walsham won the women's division in 12:05. It's the fourth time she's won the race, tying



**Suzy Walsham, right, and Mark Bourne, both of Australia, celebrate after their victories in the Empire State Building Run-Up, Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013, in New York.**  
**Associated Press**

the record for most wins by a woman.

"I'm so thrilled that I won," Walsham said, adding that in comparison to previous years, "I feel surprisingly good" at the finish. She's run the race a total of six times. Bourne was doing the climb for the second time. It's "a great feeling to come out on top," he said. Australians took both second-place slots as well, with Darren Wilson finishing in 10:45 seconds and Brooke Logan finishing in 12:48.

The previous men's cham-

pion, Thomas Dold of Germany, did not race for what could have been his eighth consecutive title.

About 700 people from around the world did take part — up 86 flights of stairs at the Empire State Building. That's a total of 1,576 steps, starting at the lobby and finishing at the observation deck.

The run-up used to be held during the day before being switched to evening hours last year to allow more participation. The event is put on by the New York Road Runners, which

also puts on the annual New York City Marathon.

The race "is a real challenge," said Mary Wittenberg, president and CEO of NYRR. "This is not something you do any day of the week."

She added, "It's a — pun intended — high."

The Empire State Building race is among the more high-profile tower climbs in the world. Participants are coming from around the United States, as well as countries including Belgium, Japan and Papua New Guinea. □

# Wallace and famed car Midnight headed into Hall

**JENNA FRYER**

**AP Auto Racing Writer**

**CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP)** — Rusty Wallace will headline the fourth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame and his famed car "Midnight" will be part of his induction.

Wallace, winner of 55 races and the 1989 Cup championship will be inducted Friday night along with champions Buck Baker and Herb Thomas; championship car owner Cotton Owens; and innovative crew chief, mechanic and engine builder Leonard Wood.

Part of Wallace's display in the Hall of Fame will be the car he dubbed Midnight and drove to 13 victories from 1992-94. Wallace led for more than 5,000 laps in the car, which was raced as both a Pontiac Grand Prix and a Ford Thunderbird out of Penske Racing South.

"Back then, it was Dale Earnhardt and I racing for the win all the time," Wallace said. "I remember every week when we got to the track, he'd come up and ask me, 'What car you got? It's not that darn Midnight is it?' If it was, he knew he had his work cut out for him."

Wallace drove Midnight in 38 races, notching 30 top-fives with the car. He led nearly one-third of all possible laps in the events he raced with the car, and Midnight's 13 wins com-



**In this Oct. 10, 1988, file photo, NASCAR driver Rusty Wallace of St. Louis, Mo., left, hugs his crew chief Barry Dodson in victory lane after winning the Oakwood Homes 500 auto race at the Charlotte Motor Speedway in Concord, N.C.**  
**Associated Press**

prise nearly 20 percent of Penske Racing total.

Midnight was restored last year by former Penske Racing fabricator Chuck Gafrarar and other team members, and the car will go into the Hall in race-ready condition as a 1994 Ford Thunderbird featuring the noted black and gold Miller Genuine Draft paint scheme.

"I'm really excited to have Midnight in the NASCAR Hall of Fame, that car was such a huge part of my career," Wallace said. "Every time I sat in it, it just felt right; it fit like a glove. I'll tell you what, if we had Midnight at the race track, everyone else there knew that they had a long day

ahead of them — Midnight was just that good. The black and gold MGD paint scheme was the coolest one we ever had too. It just looked mean and the fans really loved it."

Wallace is a fan favorite heading into the Hall as part of a class with only one other living inductee, Wood, who enters a year after older brother Glenn's induction. Owens died just weeks after he was voted into the hall last June at the age of 88.

Known as the "King of the Modifieds" for more than 100 victories, Owens was part of the post-World War II racing scene around Spartanburg, South Carolina, and was close friends

with NASCAR Hall of Famers Bud Moore and David Pearson, and 1960 NASCAR champion Rex White. He won nine of 160 races at NASCAR's top level, and finished second in the 1959 championship to Hall of Famer Lee Petty. After transitioning to a car owner and engine builder, his cars won 38 races.

Pearson was one of his drivers, hooking up with Owens after stopping by his garage in 1962.

"Back then I'd have driven for nothing," said Pearson. "I didn't have a regular car. He asked if I'd like to run more races. It was the first factory ride I'd ever had. I knew I'd be in the best equipment."

Winless in their first season together, Pearson and Owens teamed to win eight races in 1964 and finish third in the standings. There were two more wins in 1965, and using a Dodge Dart station wagon dubbed the "Cotton Picker," the duo won 15 races and the championship in 1966.

"He was not like a boss, it was like working for a friend," said Pearson. "We just had a great time working together."

Wood, part of the famed Wood Brothers No. 21 Ford team, is considered with his older brother to be a NASCAR pioneer.

"He's the most dedicated, talented all-around me-

chanic NASCAR has ever seen," said nephew, Len, co-owner of the current Wood Brothers team. "He fit the term 'chief mechanic.' He could do anything with the car."

As crew chief of the No. 21 for 990 races, Wood's drivers won 96 races. His cars won 117 poles and revolutionized the pit stop.

Hired by the Ford Motor Co. to pit Jim Clark's Lotus at the 1965 Indianapolis 500, the Woods spent 41.9 seconds on pit road servicing the car Clark drove to Victory Lane. They used a modified gas can that made the fuel flow faster.

"We turned that thing on and it put in 58 gallons in 15 seconds," said Wood. "It just sucked the fuel out of there. We knew we were going to be under 20 seconds on the pit stops. We got the most publicity in the least amount of time we ever got in our lives," he added. "We hit a home run for sure."

Baker won 46 Cup races and was the series' first back-to-back champion. His career spanned portions of four decades and began in part because he honed his skills running alcohol after he couldn't find a job following his discharge from the Navy.

His final victory came at age 44 in the 1964 Southern 500, and Baker was named one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers in 1998. □



## NBA Capsules

# James, Wade score 63, Heat top Rockets 114-108

The Associated Press  
MIAMI (AP) — LeBron James scored 32 points, Dwyane Wade added 31 points and eight assists, and the Miami Heat held off the Houston Rockets 114-108 on Wednesday night.

Shane Battier scored 12, Norris Cole added 10 and Udonis Haslem grabbed 13 rebounds for Miami, which moved to 20-3 at home.

James Harden finished with 36 points and 12 rebounds for Houston, which got a 15-point, 14-rebound night from Omer Asik and 15 more points from Patrick Patterson. Jeremy Lin and Chandler Parsons each scored 13 for the Rockets. A night after tying an NBA record by connecting on 23 3-pointers, the Rockets finished 9 for 25 from beyond the arc.

Miami played without Chris Bosh, who missed the game with the flu. Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said he hoped Bosh would be well enough to play Friday when Miami hosts the Los Angeles Clippers.

SPURS 104, TIMBERWOLVES 94

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Danny Green hit eight 3-pointers and scored a career-high 28 points to help San Antonio win its 11th straight game.

Tony Parker added 31 points and eight assists and Kawhi Leonard finished with 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Spurs, who kept right on rolling without injured stars Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili.

Nikola Pekovic had 21 points and 10 rebounds and Derrick Williams added 15 points and 12 boards for the Timberwolves, who added do-it-all forward Andrei Kirilenko (bruised right quadriceps) to a seemingly endless list of injured players.

THUNDER 119, WARRIORS 98

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kevin Durant scored 25 points, Russell Westbrook added 22 and Oklahoma City won consecutive games for the first time in nearly three weeks.

Playing on the second night of a back-to-back, the Warriors didn't get settled in Oklahoma City until almost daybreak and it showed in the early going. The Thunder finally put it away with a 16-4 run to start the fourth quarter that featured 10 points from sixth man Kevin Martin. That allowed coach Scott Brooks to go without Durant or Westbrook in the fourth quarter for the second straight game.

Harrison Barnes and Klay Thompson had 19 points apiece for the Warriors. Golden State played without Andrew Bogut, who is still easing his way back from a left ankle injury, and Jarrett Jack was sidelined by a right shoulder contusion.

MAVERICKS 105, TRAIL BLAZERS 99

DALLAS (AP) — O.J. Mayo scored 28 points, Vince Carter hit a critical jumper in the final minute and Dallas gave coach Rick Carlisle his 500th career victory. Mayo had 20 in the first half and was mostly quiet before getting two important baskets with Portland trying to rally late in the fourth quarter.

Carter put Dallas ahead 99-94 with a jumper just inside the 3-point line with the shot clock winding down.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 27 points and 10 rebounds a week after he beat the Mavericks at the buzzer in Portland.

WIZARDS 106, KNICKS 96

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Wall had 21 points and nine assists, Trevor Ariza scored 20 points and Washington Wizards broke New York's five-game winning streak.

The Wizards also snapped New York's 10-game winning streak over them.

Wall, playing in front of his college coach, John Calipari, and Hall of Famer Magic Johnson, scored 10 points in the fourth quarter as Washington took control.

New York never got closer than 97-92 with 2:57 to play and the Wizards pulled away at the end.

Martel Webster added 19 for Washington, which has won just 13 games, but has beaten five of the six NBA division leaders. □



Minnesota Timberwolves forward Dante Cunningham, right, is called for goaltending against San Antonio Spurs guard Tony Parker, left, of France, during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013, in Minneapolis. The Spurs won 104-94.

Associated Press

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## NHL Capsules

### Fasth leads Ducks to 3-0 win over Avalanche

The Associated Press

**DENVER (AP)** — Viktor Fasth stopped 31 shots for his first NHL shutout and Francois Beauchemin scored in his 500th career game, lifting the surging Anaheim Ducks to a 3-0 win over the Colorado Avalanche on Wednesday night.

Sheldon Souray and Saku Koivu each added a goal and an assist for the Ducks, who won their fourth straight game.

Fasth stymied the struggling Avalanche with one sprawling save after another to help Anaheim start a six-game road swing on a good note.

#### BRUINS 2, CANADIENS 1

**MONTREAL (AP)** — Line-mates Tyler Seguin and David Krejci scored in the opening 2:05 of the third period, lifting Boston to a victory over the Canadiens. The win moved the Bruins (7-1-1) into sole possession of first place in the Northeast Division and kept Montreal (6-3-0) from taking over the division lead. P.K. Subban scored his first of the season on a second period power play for Mon-



Anaheim Ducks defenseman Sheldon Souray, second from left, is congratulated after scoring a goal against the Colorado Avalanche by teammates, from left, Emerson Etem, Francois Beauchemin, Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry in the first period of an NHL hockey game in Denver, Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013.

Associated Press

treil, whose five-game home winning streak ended. Boston outshot Montreal 23-22.

#### STARS 3, OILERS 2, OT

#### EDMONTON, Alberta (AP)

— Jaromir Jagr scored in overtime, lifting the Stars to a victory over the injury-riddled Oilers for their first winning streak of the season. Jagr beat Oilers goalie Devan Dubnyk 1:46 into the extra period with a high wrist shot for his third goal

of the season.

Jamie Benn and Derek Roy scored in regulation for the Stars, who improved to 5-5-1. Dallas has won two in a row. Ales Hemsky and Justin Schultz scored for the Oilers, who were without three of their top four centers — Ryan Nugent-Hopkins (day to day with a shoulder injury), Shawn Horcoff (broken knuckle) and Eric Belanger (broken toes). □

## Nadal into semifinals in doubles in Chile



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns the ball to Argentina's Federico Delbonis during a VTR Open tennis match in Vina del Mar, Chile, Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013.

Associated Press

#### STEPHEN WADE

AP Sports Writer

#### VINA DEL MAR, Chile (AP)

— Rafael Nadal and Juan Monaco reached the semifinals of the doubles tournament at the VTR Open on Thursday with a 6-2, 7-6 (4) victory over Guillaume Ruffin and Filippo Volandri. It was Nadal's third match in three days after being away from the tour for just over seven months with an inflamed left ankle and a stomach virus.

Nadal faces fellow Spaniard Daniel Gimeno-Traver in the singles quarterfinals on Friday. The former No. 1-ranked Nadal moved easily around the court, showing no signs his left knee was bothering him. "He is worrying about his knees, he's worried about his health. He's worried about getting back to a good competitive level," his spokesman Benito Perez-Barbadillo said.

"He's not worried in a negative way," he added. "What he cares about is to be healthy and be ready to be competitive at every level he plays and to be at the same level as he was playing before." Nadal came to Chile wanting to get playing time as he tries to catch up to his top rivals Roger Federer, Andy Murray and Novak Djokovic again. If he keeps winning in singles and doubles he will be playing two matches a day this weekend. Nadal won his last of eight doubles titles last year with Mark Lopez in Indian Wells. He has won 50 titles in singles. Nadal is being treated like a rock star in Chile, where he had never played until this week. "I feel like just another Chilean," he said Wednesday. The quote showed up in the headlines of several Chilean newspapers on Thursday. □

**T**he tide recedes but leaves behind bright seashells on the sand.

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Martin, Bret, Zahra, Johny, Glenda, Michelle, John, Melissa, Zeyna, John Jr., & Ranya



# Honduras rallies to beat U.S. 2-1 in WCup qualifier



Honduras' Jerry Bengtson celebrates after scoring against U.S. during a 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer game in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Wednesday Feb. 6, 2013. Honduras won 2-1.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

Jerry Bengtson took advantage of a defensive mix-up to score the winning goal in the 79th minute as Honduras beat the United States 2-1 Wednesday in the opener of the final qualifying round for next year's World Cup.

Clint Dempsey put the Americans ahead in the 36th minute but the Americans, using a new-look defense that featured Omar Gonzalez and Timmy Chandler, gave up the lead when Juan Carlos Garcia leveled the score in the 40th at San Pedro Sula. Bengtson, who plays for Major League Soccer's New England Revolution, scored the winner when defender Geoff Cameron and goalkeeper Tim Howard both went for a pass by Maynor Figueroa to Oscar Boniek Garcia. That allowed Garcia to tap the ball across to Bengtson for a shot into an open net, and Gonzalez was too late to challenge him.

Playing without Landon Donovan, a veteran of three World Cups who is unsure whether to continue his career, the 28th-ranked U.S. was under pressure for much of the match. Honduras had the better chances, forcing Howard into several difficult saves. Gonzalez had a chance to redeem himself, getting his head on a corner kick by Graham Zusi in the final seconds of stoppage time. But his shot from the 6-yard box sailed well above the

crossbar.

The U.S. lost its final-round opener for the first time in five games since the "hexagonal" format was adopted in qualifying for the 1998 tournament. The Americans are seeking their seventh straight tip to football's showcase.

The top three nations in the six-team group represent North and Central America and the Caribbean at next year's tournament in Brazil, and the No. 4 country advances to a playoff for another berth, likely against New Zealand.

Gonzalez replaced captain Carlos Bocanegra in central defense, and Chandler was in the starting lineup to play right back in his competitive debut for the Americans — tying the German-American to the

U.S. team.

The game marked somewhat of a generational change for the U.S. defense, with Chandler (22), Gonzalez (24), Cameron (27) and Fabian Johnson (25) in the backline. The Americans had played 16 consecutive qualifiers since 2008 with at least one 30-year-old defender in the starting lineup.

The U.S. went ahead when Jozy Altidore played the ball to Jermaine Jones, who flicked the ball over the defense. In full stride, Dempsey volleyed the ball with his right foot past goalkeeper Noel Valladares from eight yards. With his 31st goal in 92 appearances, Dempsey moved past Brian McBride into sole possession of third place on the U.S. career scoring list. Dempsey has six

of the Americans' 12 goals in qualifying for 2014.

But for the fourth straight road qualifier, the U.S. scored first only to give up the lead.

Oscar Boniek Garcia's corner kick went all the way to the opposite side of the field, bounced four times and was played back to the center by Victor Hernandez after no American chased the ball down. Figueroa chested the pass

up to Juan Carlos Garcia, who with his back to the goal scored on an overhead kick from 10 yards that went to Howard's right, leaving the goalkeeper bent over in shock. It was Garcia's first goal in 18 international appearances. Honduras appeared for a moment to take the lead in the 56th minute, but Carlo Costly was ruled offside when he slotted the ball past Howard. □

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<p>NEW THIS WEEK</p> <p>Nicholas Hoult    Teresa Palmer</p> <p><b>WARM BODIES</b></p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles <b>PG-13</b></p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20 Fri 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20 / 11:35 Sat 2:35 / 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20 / 11:35 Sun &amp; Hol 2:35 / 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20</p>	<p>Jessica Chastain    Nikolaj Coster-Waldau</p> <p><b>MAMA</b></p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30 <b>PG-13</b> Fri 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30 / 11:55 Sat 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30 / 11:55 Sun &amp; Hol 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30</p>
<p>Jeremy Renner    Gemma Arterton</p> <p><b>Hansel &amp; Gretel</b></p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles <b>R</b></p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:20 / 6:25 / 8:35 Fri 4:20 / 6:25 / 8:35 / 10:45 Sat 2:15 / 4:20 / 6:25 / 8:35 / 10:45 Sun &amp; Hol 2:15 / 4:20 / 6:25 / 8:35</p>	<p>Jason Statham    Jennifer Lopez</p> <p><b>PARKER</b></p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:15 <b>R</b> Fri 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:15 / 11:50 Sat 2:00 / 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:15 / 11:50 Sun &amp; Hol 2:00 / 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:15</p>
<p>Billy Crystal    Bette Midler</p> <p><b>PARENTAL GUIDANCE</b></p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles <b>PG</b></p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:30 / 6:50 / 9:10 Fri 4:30 / 6:50 / 9:10 / 11:30 Sat 2:10 / 4:30 / 6:50 / 9:10 / 11:30 Sun &amp; Hol 2:10 / 4:30 / 6:50 / 9:10</p>	<p>Naomi Watts    Ewan McGregor</p> <p>ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE BEST ACTRESS NAOMI WATTS</p> <p><b>THE IMPOSSIBLE</b></p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles <b>PG-13</b></p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20 Fri 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20 / 11:50 Sat 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20 / 11:50 Sun &amp; Hol 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20</p>
<p>STARTING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14</p> <p>Bruce Willis    Jai Courtney</p> <p><b>A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD</b></p>	

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## Study: Many stroke victims ponder suicide

**M. MARCHIONE**  
**AP Chief Medical Writer**

One in 12 stroke survivors thought about suicide or that they would be better off dead, a new U.S. survey reveals. That's more than those with other health problems such as heart attacks or cancer, and it suggests that depression after stroke is more serious than many had realized.

"It was surprising" and shows a need for more treatment, said the study's leader, Dr. Amytis Towfighi of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. "When patients have their depression treated they're more motivated to take their medication, do therapy and live a full life." The study was discussed Thursday at an American Stroke Association conference.

More than 6 million Americans have had a stroke; about 800,000 occur each year in the U.S. Studies suggest that up to a third of stroke survivors develop depression, but few have looked at suicidal thoughts. "It's not necessarily active suicidal thoughts with a plan, but perhaps wishing you hadn't survived the event," Towfighi explained. She used the National Health and Nutrition Surveys, a government project that gives checkups and questionnaires to a representative sample of adults. More than 17,000 people were surveyed from 2005 through 2010. They included 678 who had suffered a stroke; 758 who had had a heart attack; 1,242 with cancer and 1,991 with diabetes. Researchers don't know how long ago these problems occurred or if people were still being treated for them.

They were asked a question that many studies use to gauge suicidal thinking: "Over the last two weeks, how often have you been bothered by thoughts that you would be better off dead, or of hurting yourself?" □

## Eat, drink your way to a better memory

**Marjie Gilliam**

© 2013 Cox Newspapers

**DAYTON, Ohio** -- Springboarding from last week's Road to Fitness column, on

cson and Dr. Christopher Ochner, reveals their list of top 10 great memory foods: fish, berries, seeds/nuts, green leafy veg-



**Fresh produce on display at a farmers market. A Harvard Medical School study suggests those who eat relatively high amounts of vegetables have less age-related decline in memory.**

(Handout Photo)

how lifestyle choices can affect memory and brain function, today I'll look at how what we eat and drink can help to boost memory. "The Alzheimer's Diet," written by Harvard-trained neurologist Richard S Isaac-

etables, cocoa powder, legumes, grape juice (no sugar added), curry, black or green tea, and dark skinned fruits.

Their top 10 list of poor-memory foods included white bread, candy, sug-

ary beverages of all kinds, cakes/muffins, most fried foods, foods sauteed in high-fat vegetable or corn oil, most dried foods/processed foods, bacon, hot dogs and buttered popcorn. For more information, go online to [www.Alzheimersdiet.com](http://www.Alzheimersdiet.com).

Harvard Medical School conducted a 25-year study of 13,000 women that showed that those who ate relatively high amounts of vegetables had less age-related decline in memory. The most beneficial effect came from cruciferous vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts and cauliflower and leafy green vegetables including Swiss chard, kale, spinach, collard and mustard greens.

Other helpful memory sustainers, according to relevant studies:

Folic acid (also known as folate) seems to have a direct effect on memory, according to studies including one conducted at Tufts

University in Boston that followed about 320 men for three years. Sources of folic acid include fortified whole-grain breakfast cereals, lentils, black-eyed peas, soybeans, spinach, green peas, artichokes, broccoli, wheat germ, beets and oranges.

Anthocyanins, a type of flavonoid, are the pigments responsible for the red, purple, and blue colors of many fruits and vegetables. Look for fruits and vegetables with deep color such as red onion, beets and cabbage, berries, grapes, cherries, eggplant, plums, rhubarb. Quercetin is another type of flavonoid, found in citrus fruits, apples, onions, parsley, sage, and tea, as well as red wine. Omega 3 fatty acids, according to a study conducted by researchers at the Rush University Medical Center in Chicago that followed more than 3,000 men and women for six years to see how diet affected memory. □

## New whooping cough strain raises flags

**MIKE STOBBE**

**AP Medical Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Researchers have discovered the first U.S. cases of whooping cough caused by a germ that may be resistant to the vaccine. Health officials are looking into whether cases like the dozen found in Philadelphia might be one reason America just had its worst year for whooping cough in six decades. The new bug was previously reported in Japan, France and Finland.

"It's quite intriguing. It's the first time we've seen this here," said Dr. Tom Clark of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The new germ was first identified in France, where more extensive testing is routinely done for whooping cough. The strain now accounts for 14 percent of cases there, said Nicole Guiso of the Pasteur Institute, one of the researchers.

The U.S. cases are detailed

in a brief report from the CDC and other researchers in Thursday's New Eng-

An increase in illnesses in recent years has been partially blamed on a version

more people have been getting sick. Experts don't think it's more deadly, but the shots may not work as well against it.

In a small, soon-to-be published study, French researchers found the vaccine seemed to lower the risk of severe disease from the new strain in infants. But it didn't prevent illness completely.

The new germ was first identified in France, where more extensive testing is routinely done for whooping cough. The strain now accounts for 14 percent of cases there, Guiso said.

In the United States, doctors usually rely on a rapid test to help make a diagnosis. The extra lab work isn't done often enough to give health officials a good idea how common the new type is here, experts said.

"We definitely need some more information about this before we can draw any conclusions," the CDC's Clark said. □



**Carlos Maisonet, 73, reacts to a flu shot at Brooklyn Hospital in New York. Researchers have discovered the first U.S. cases of whooping cough caused by a germ that may be resistant to the vaccine.**

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

land Journal of Medicine. Whooping cough is a highly contagious disease that can strike people of any age but is most dangerous to children. It was once common, but cases in the U.S. dropped after a vaccine was introduced in the 1940s.

of the vaccine used since the 1990s, which doesn't last as long. Last year, the CDC received reports of 41,880 cases, according to a preliminary count. That included 18 deaths.

The new study suggests that the new whooping cough strain may be why



# Review: iPhone Google Maps lags Android version

BREE FOWLER

AP Business Writer

BLOOMSBURG, Pennsylvania (AP) —

Every time my husband and I drive the 677 miles from New York to my parents' house in Michigan, we dread the long stretch of Interstate 80 through the hills of rural Pennsylvania. It's beautiful, but lonely, without a lot of places to stop.

On this trip, with a little help from Google and Apple, I was determined to stay caffeinated and maybe find somewhere else to eat besides McDonald's and truck stops.

We had two iPhones and two Android phones between us, allowing me to test Google Maps on both the iPhone and Android and Apple's own mapping app for the iPhone. (There's no Apple app on Android.) These apps all have turn-by-turn voice navigation and will nag you with new directions if you make a wrong turn or try to go off-course.

I tested out the Google and Apple mapping apps before, but focused on how their walking and public-transportation functions worked in New York City. I wanted to see how they performed for driving and outside of the comfort of a major metropolitan area.

But mainly, I wanted to see how Google Maps fared compared with Apple's Maps, which kicked Google Maps off the iPhone in September. That meant Google had no mapping app on the iPhone until it released a replacement in December. Google Maps with voice navigation has been on Android phones since 2009. I also wanted to see if the Android and iPhone versions have all the same bells and whistles. (Spoiler alert: They don't).

We set off from New York with our easily bored 3-year-old daughter strapped in the back seat. I fired up the phones and set courses for my parents' home in Haslett, Michigan (just outside Lansing, for those too lazy to Google it).

The two versions of Google Maps and the Apple software pretty much gave me the same directions and time estimate — just over 10 hours, though we were planning on 12 with stops.

We usually take a break at a Panera Bread bakery about an hour into Pennsylvania, but our daughter was napping and we weren't really hungry. So we threw ourselves at the mercy of Google and Apple and hoped that they would find us something in an hour or two.

As we wound through the hills, with my husband driving, I watched the little blue arrows on my phones move across the state and checked out the different features each mapping program offered.

The Android version of Google Maps has the most toys and the most beautiful graphics.

The bars and dry cleaners visible on its street maps of New York get replaced by the names of rivers and small-town roads in the distance.

By comparison, both

iPhone apps seem bare bones, which isn't too surprising as the Android app had a head start of three years. Apple's fancy 3-D graphics largely melt away when you get out of the city.

The Android version allows me to select "layers" for my map showing such things as traffic and nearby businesses.

The restaurant layer proved very helpful when my daughter started getting cranky and we needed to make an unplanned stop. The traffic layer, which lights up in red, yellow and green depending on the amount of traffic, also was particularly helpful on the way back to New York. It warned us of a monster backup on the George Washington Bridge and estimated how long that would delay us in case we wanted to take an alternate route.

We took our chances with the bridge. While the delay wasn't quite as bad as we feared it would be, it was definitely helpful to know about it ahead of time.

The iPhone version of

Google Maps doesn't offer layers at all. And while the Apple software does offer some traffic information, you can't see it in the form of a layer when you're in navigation mode as you can with the Android version.

The Android version also allows you to set a final destination and search for places along your route, while Google's iPhone app doesn't.

Apple lets me do this by using the Siri voice assistant on my iPhone. By hitting the home button and saying "Starbucks," I got the closest locations.

That's what we did a few hours into Pennsylvania when our caffeine withdrawal headaches started to kick in and our daughter was getting antsy.

To my surprise, both Siri and the Android phones located a Starbucks in a small town just a few miles (ki-



In this undated screenshot, the Google Maps application is demonstrated on an iPhone.

Associated Press

lometers) off the freeway. We easily got there, but found it was on the campus of Bloomsburg University, which appeared closed for the holidays.

So, we got back on the highway and headed to the next location, in Williamsport. □

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## US retailers report strong January sales

**ANNE D'INNOCENZIO**

**AP Retail Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Americans shopped the winter clearance racks in January, resulting in strong sales during the month for retailers. But spending is expected to slow heading into the spring as shoppers digest rising gas prices and a 2 percent payroll tax hike that started in January. Noelle Perillo, 34, was certainly lured in by deals last month. She says that she spent a total of \$100 in January on deeply discounted holiday ornaments, home items and clothes for her toddler son. But she also says her spending may slow in the months ahead. "I have what I need, and I am kind of shopped out. I'm set for now," says Peril-

lo, a freelance public relations consultant who lives in Silver Springs, Maryland. "I am optimistic that things will improve but when I hear things like gas prices spiking, that's a concern." Overall, 20 U.S. retailers reported on Thursday that revenue at stores opened at least a year — an indicator of a store's health — rose an average of 5.1 percent, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers.

That's above the trade group's 3 percent estimate and the 4.5 percent increase posted in December. It also marks the highest reading since August 2012 when the figure was up 6 percent. Only a small group of stores that represent about 13 percent of the \$2.4 trillion



A woman shops at Nordstrom store in Chicago, Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013.

(AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh)

U.S. retail industry report monthly revenue. But the data offers a snapshot of consumer spending, which

has been heavily influenced by big discounts during the economic downturn.

Retailers are coming off a ho-hum holiday season that was defined by heavy discounting to get shoppers to buy. January, which marks the end of retailers' fourth quarter, typically is the time when stores have clearance sales on winter merchandise to make room for spring items. But once the clearance goods disappeared last month, so did shoppers. Analysts say the absence of big discounts — coupled with gas prices that have risen for the past 20 days and the new payroll tax — caused sales to taper off in the last week or so of the month. Such pressures also hurt consumer confidence last month, which fell to the lowest reading in 14 months, according to the Conference Board. □

## Humbled Toyota rolls out new Tundra pickup

**DEE-ANN DURBIN**

**TOM KRISHER**

**AP Auto Writers**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Back in 2007, Toyota trumpeted its bulked-up Tundra as a game-changer that would cut into Detroit's dominance of the U.S. pickup truck market. "The truck that's changing it all," was the tagline from an ad that featured the beefy Tundra pulling a 10,000-pound trailer up a

steep ramp.

But after six years on the market, the Tundra hasn't changed much of anything. Instead, Toyota learned that unlike car buyers, American pickup owners are still fiercely loyal to their Fords, Rams and Chevrolets. And that Detroit feverishly guards its lead in the high-margin truck business.

Toyota is rolling out the 2014 Tundra on Thursday at the

Chicago Auto Show, minus lofty sales goals or talk of breaking into Detroit's cash box. The new version goes on sale in September. The price and gas mileage haven't been announced. Alec Gutierrez, senior market analyst for Kelly Blue Book says Tundra won't lure new buyers unless it costs less or offers compelling features to make it different.

Longtime Detroit buyers

agree. Jon Carey, who co-owns a drywall business near Ann Arbor, Michigan, hauls tools and building materials with two Ram pickups purchased in 2006, and he sees no reason to switch.

"If you're just talking apples-to-apples, in my opinion, they'll never break into it," Carey said of Toyota. "If they were giving the same price point, I don't know that I would necessarily

switch. There would have to be some real reason behind it."

The 2014 Tundra has a tougher squared-off look with a bold grille and more aerodynamic exterior, a more comfortable interior and a long list of practical and luxury features, such as a blind spot monitor and a standard backup camera. But it lacks the type of changes Gutierrez hinted at. □



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# Stocks retreat as EU, earnings weigh sentiment

**STEVE ROTHWELL**  
**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Stocks slumped on Wall Street Thursday, and the rally which has pushed indexes close to record levels stalled.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 42 points, or 0.3 percent, to 13,944, after sliding as much as 134 points earlier. The index has edged lower this week, after logging its best January in almost two decades.

The Standard and Poor's 500 fell three points to 1,509 and the Nasdaq composite dropped three points to 3,165.

"We had such a big January, some type of weakness, or consolidation, make sense here to us," said Ryan Detrick of Schaeffer's Investment Research in Cincinnati.

The S&P 500 has lost an av-

erage of 0.58 percent in February over the last 20 years, making it the weakest month for stocks, according to research by Schaeffer's.

Stocks fell as weaker earnings and worries about Europe overshadowed healthier signs for the U.S. economy.

Fewer Americans sought unemployment benefits last week, a sign that layoffs are easing. Applications for unemployment benefits fell 5,000 to 366,000.

But the stock price of News Corp. fell 66 cents, or 2.3 percent, to \$27.52 after the media conglomerate cut its forecast for annual earnings. Weakness at several businesses, including its Fox broadcast network, should offset a gain in earnings in the most recent quarter.

Investors also worried about comments from

European Central Bank president Mario Draghi. He pledged to keep a close eye on the rising euro, fear-



Trader Mathias Roberts, left, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ing that the currency's rally in recent month could hurt exports and further harm the region's fragile economy. "You could have very weak growth in Europe for the next five or ten years,"

said Michael Sheldon, chief strategist at RDM Financial Group. "There's a lot of austerity going through

the European markets, so it's going to be a long time before they re-establish themselves." Most of Europe's major stock indexes ended the day lower. Only Germany and Greece

bucked the trend.

Europe has returned to investor's radars after several months of relative quiet. Stocks fell on Monday, partly because of a spike in borrowing costs for Italy and Spain. That reignited concerns that those countries won't be able to service their debts.

Still, some say that the decline is more of a pullback than a sell-off. That will give investors a chance to buy stocks at lower prices in anticipation of the market resuming its rally.

Stocks have jumped this year on optimism that the housing market will sustain its recovery and the job market will slowly heal. Corporate earnings growth has also accelerated.

"There's really nothing new to worry about it," said Sam Stovall, chief equity strategist at S&P Capital IQ. □

## US unemployment aid applications decline to 366K

**C. S. RUGABER**  
**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Fewer Americans sought unemployment benefits last week, indicating companies continue to hire at a modest but steady pace. The Labor Department said Thursday that weekly applications for unemployment benefits fell 5,000 to a seasonally adjusted 366,000.

The four-week average, a less volatile measure,

dropped to 350,500, the lowest in nearly five years. The average is low because of seasonal factors, which reduced applications sharply last month.

Still, economists were encouraged by the decline. Weekly applications are a proxy for layoffs. When layoffs decline, net hiring typically rises. The drop in the four-week average "is good news and supports the view that the U.S. labor

market is gradually improving," said Jennifer Lee, an economist at BMO Capital Markets. The four-week average of applications has dropped nearly 6 percent in the past three months. At the same time, hiring has picked up: Employers added an average of 200,000 jobs a month from November through January.

In January, employers added 157,000 jobs. And annual revisions included

in the Labor Department's January employment report showed the economy created 600,000 more jobs in 2011 and 2012 than previously thought.

Still, the unemployment rate ticked up to 7.9 percent in January from 7.8 percent in December. Economists expect unemployment will decline if hiring continues at last year's monthly pace of 180,000. The rate fell 0.7 percentage points in 2012.

Overall, nearly 5.6 million people received unemployment benefits in the week ended Jan. 19, the latest data available. That's about 325,000 fewer than the previous week.

That's also less than half the number of unemployed, which stood at 12.3 million last month. Many of the unemployed aren't eligible for benefits, while others have used up all the benefits available to them. □

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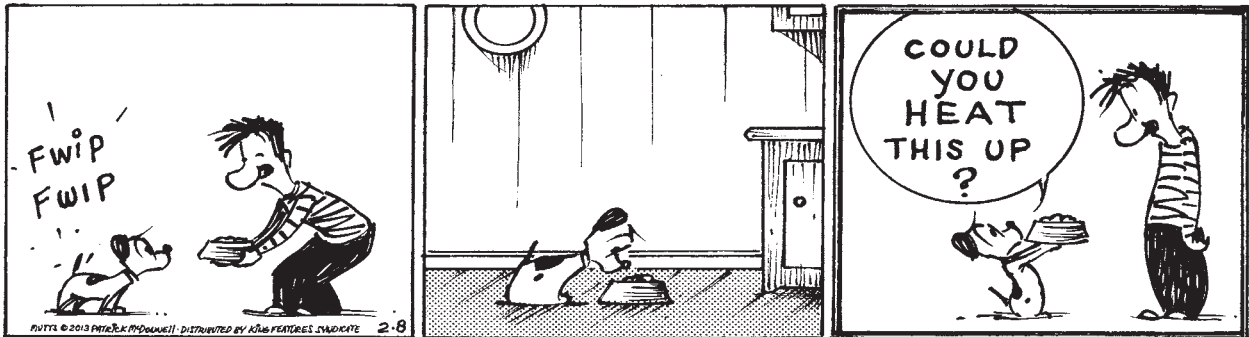
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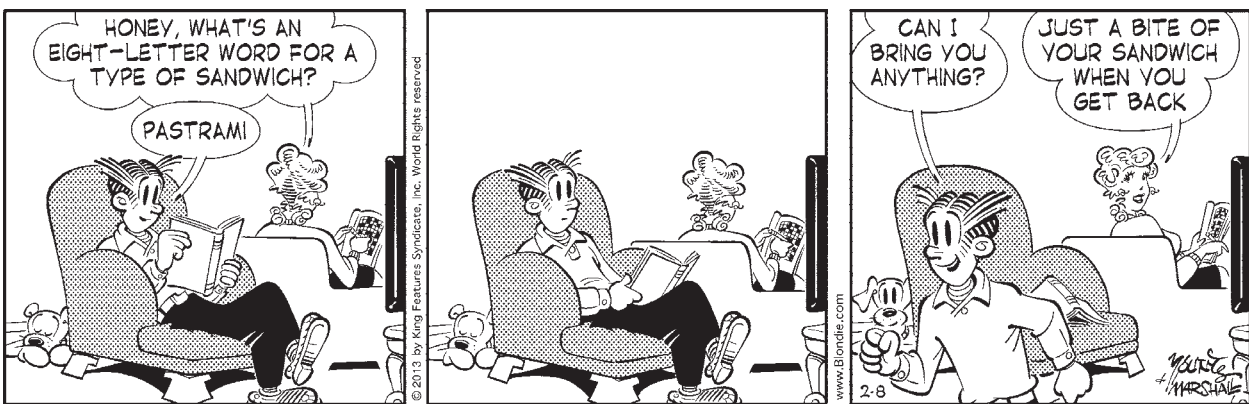
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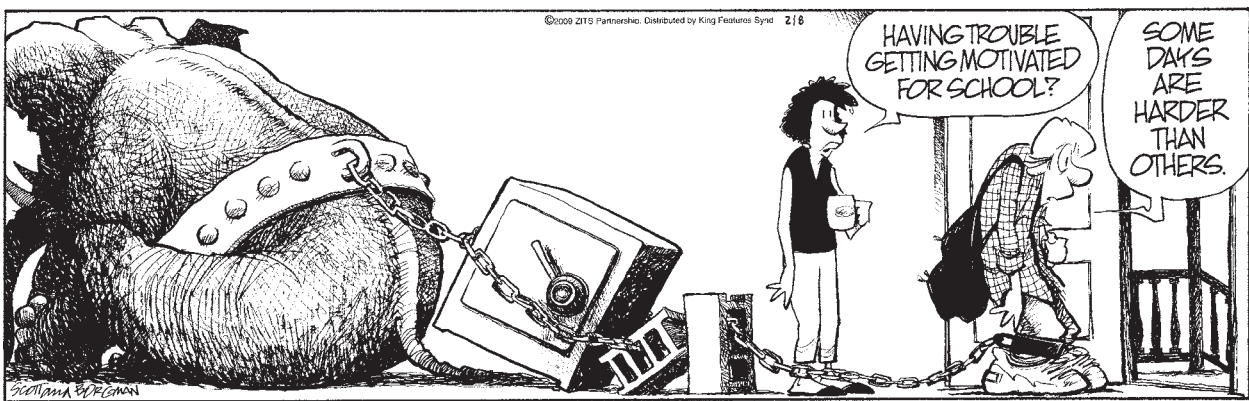
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			6			7		
2				7			5	
		4				3		1
				4		5		7
				9				
9		6		5				
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	7			2				4
		5			4			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

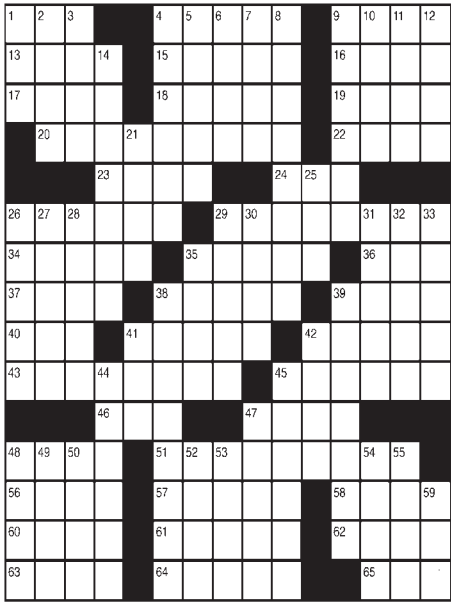
1	6	5	2	4	7	3	9	8
9	4	7	3	6	8	1	5	2
8	3	2	5	1	9	4	6	7
2	5	4	9	3	6	8	7	1
7	8	9	4	5	1	2	3	6
6	1	3	8	7	2	9	4	5
3	7	1	6	8	4	5	2	9
4	2	6	1	9	5	7	8	3
5	9	8	7	2	3	6	1	4

ACROSS

- 1 Failure  
4 Serenity  
9 \_\_\_ mater; school one graduated from  
13 Dating couple gossiped about  
15 Baseball great Hank \_\_\_  
16 Sheep's coat  
17 Plato or Carvey  
18 \_\_\_ on; trample  
19 Eden resident  
20 Punctuate with a small dash  
22 Mattel's boy dolls of the '60s  
23 Skillets  
24 Feasted  
26 Unanchored  
29 Childish  
34 \_\_\_ Dracula  
35 Bricklayer  
36 Gun the engine  
37 Wedding band  
38 Stopwatch  
39 Heavy book  
40 Mr. Whitney  
41 More rational  
42 Highest male singing voice  
43 Summary  
45 "Money \_\_\_ grow on trees"  
46 Sweet potato  
47 Sonnet or limerick  
48 Wading bird  
51 Foolishness  
56 Money, slangily  
57 Salamanders  
58 Lunch hour  
60 Tardy  
61 Up in arms  
62 Singer Lady \_\_\_  
63 Celebrity  
64 Nervous  
65 Small amount

DOWN

- 1 "Where \_\_\_ I go wrong?"  
2 "Beehive State"  
3 Refuse to admit  
4 Inventor's paper  
5 Makes a salary  
6 Region  
7 Winter garment  
8 Try  
9 Begin to stir after sleeping  
10 Ore deposit  
11 Complain  
12 Poor box donation  
14 Drawing a geographic diagram  
21 Ax handle  
25 Smallest two-digit number  
26 TV's "Green \_\_\_"  
27 Tiny circular crocheted mat  
28 Confrontation  
29 Brolin or Caan  
30 Drug addict  
31 Presses  
32 Yellow citrus  
33 Chris of tennis  
35 Short skirt  
38 Australian island  
39 \_\_\_ with; full of  
41 Hot tub  
42 Three-\_\_\_ sloth  
44 Mollusk with a pearl inside  
45 Jimmy or Tommy  
47 Taps a golf ball  
48 Misfortunes  
49 Dory or dinghy  
50 Greek letter  
52 Swiss capital  
53 Hit a fly  
54 Warty amphibian  
55 Meditative exercise  
59 Capture



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/8/13

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

EYED	FOALS	MILD
DOVE	AGLOW	USER
AGES	BRIDE	FLEA
MISSILE	GABFEST	
EKE	PETAL	
ANDRE	YES	KEVIN
BEAT	HER	BESIDE
IAN	MATURED	DEC
DRAMAS	SEA	PEAK
ESSAY	WED	POOLS
SOLID	TEA	
COLOR	RED	BRACKEN
UPON	AERIE	HIVE
BEAR	SLATE	EWES
ANDY	TYPES	DIRT

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2/8/13



# Classifieds

## My Genie Real Estate Aruba

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after jan. 19 call. 920-7882750

198395A

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198536

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198543

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198391



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198169

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197996

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\$9500 per week

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Joe or Mary Summers

114364

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198712



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Oranjestad	582-4000
Noord	587-0009
Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

## Emergency Numbers



Emergency	911
Police	100
Fire Dept.	115
Fire Dept. II	582-1108
Police Tipline	11141
Hospital	527-4000

## Oranjestad

Ambulance	582-1234
Police	582-4000

## San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Police Station	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

## Services

Information	118
Setar	582-5151
Taxi	582-2116
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Taxi D.T.S.	587-2300
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Jet Blue	Tel: 588-2244
Spirit Airlines	Tel: 582-7117
Suriname Airways	Tel: 582-7896
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## pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3354 / 586-6976

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## Foundation

Tel: 583-5400



114837



# Tragedy for dinosaurs, opportunity for mammals, us

**SETH BORENSTEIN**

**AP Science Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — New research pinpoints how the torch passed from one dominant creature on Earth to another, from the brutish dinosaur to the crafty mammal.

Two studies published Thursday in the journal *Science* better explain the Earth-shaking consequences of a catastrophic cosmic collision 66 million years ago when a comet or asteroid smashed into the Gulf of Mexico.

The crash seemed to end the reign of the dinosaurs. And it gave way to the age of mammals that probably started with a cute squirrel-like critter and eventually led to us, the researchers report.

"I think it's fair to say, without the dinosaurs having gone extinct, we would not be here," said Paul Renne, director of the Berkeley Geochronology Center, who led the research on the dinosaurs and cosmic crash. The dinosaurs' disappearance "essentially releases the little timid mammals to become the big guys."

Renne demonstrated how the timing of the cosmic crash exquisitely matches the disappearance of the slow-footed dinosaurs of Jurassic Park fame. His findings provide more evidence for the theory that an extraterrestrial crash was most responsible for the extinction of dinosaurs. Scientists have long thought that there were 200,000 years between the big crash and the end of the dinosaurs, but Renne's more detailed examination of fossils and soil at Hell Creek in northeast Montana puts the two events within 32,000 years of each



In this July 6, 2012 photo provided by Courtney Sprain, Paul Renne collects a volcanic ash sample from a coal bed in Montana, within a few centimeters of the dinosaur extinction layer.

Associated Press



This undated image provided by the American Museum of Natural History shows a shrew-sized Cretaceous-age animal, *Ukhaatherium nessovi*, which is one of the many mammals used in a mammal tree-of-life study released Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013.

other. That strengthens the

a now-filled crater more than 100 miles (160 kilometers) wide at Chicxulub, on the coast of the Yucatan peninsula.

"The asteroid really rang the bell of the planet," said Smithsonian Natural History Museum Director Kirk Johnson, who wasn't part of either study, but praised them both. Together they showed how that one event "had a profound impact on the nature of organisms that live on this planet."

Dinosaurs are a distinct grouping of species, some of which evolved into birds. Scientists don't know how long it took for the large non-avian kinds like *Tyrannosaurus Rex* to die off.

The second study painstakingly details the family tree of the most predominant type of mammal, those that give birth after a long gestation period. The researchers propose that the first such mammal was a shrewish critter slightly bigger than a mouse with a nasty set of teeth. And it first popped in the world a little more than 65 million years ago — just after that cosmic crash.

When an asteroid or comet hits Earth and kills off the dinosaurs, it's both a tragedy and an opportunity,

said Maureen O'Leary of Stony Brook University and lead author of the mammal study: "In some sense, we are a product of that opportunity."

O'Leary's team looked at 4,541 different characteristics of mammals still around and extinct and traced their DNA and their physical features back until it seemed there was a common — and hypothetical — ancestor.

"This isn't something that is just a guess; this is something that is a result of the analysis," O'Leary said. "This thing had a long furry tail. It had a white underbelly and it had brown eyes."

It was smaller than a rat, but bigger than a mouse and likely ate insects.

That first mammal evolved over the years into all sorts of different types, eventually including bats, whales, elephants and primates like us.

"Boy, did a lot happen in about 200,000 years," said study co-author Michael Novacek, curator of paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

Unlike the slow-witted dinosaurs, which weren't known for their ability to adapt, mammals in general are more intelligent and can adapt well, O'Leary said.

Scientists examining ancient plants had already estimated that just before the dinosaurs died off world temperatures plunged by about 10 degrees Fahrenheit, (3.4 Celsius) causing a loss of many species. Then when the asteroid or comet hit, material spewed into Earth's atmosphere causing temperatures to spike, before dropping again.

Princeton University scientist Gerta Keller, who has been one of the most vocal critics of the impact theory, said the new work still doesn't resolve her doubts. She notes it only looks at soil in Montana.

Renne said there are no impact records anywhere else that are different from what he found in Montana. □

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case for the space crash as the "straw that broke the camel's back" and killed off the dinosaurs, said Renne.

He said other environmental factors, such as a changing climate from volcanic eruptions, also had made life harder for the dinosaurs, but that the big final dagger was the giant collision that caused



## APNewsBreak: Stephen Tyler to testify on HI celeb privacy



In this Nov. 2, 2012 file photo, Steven Tyler of Aerosmith performs on NBC's "Today" show in New York.

Associated Press

**ANITA HOFSCHEIDER**  
Associated Press

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler plans to attend a legislative hearing in Hawaii on a bill named for him that would limit unwanted celebrity photos and video. A publicist for the former "American Idol" judge told The Associated Press on Thursday that Tyler has submitted written testimony supporting a plan that would give celebrities power to sue people who photograph them in an of-

fensive way during their private lives. Hawaii's Senate judiciary committee plans to consider the so-called Steven Tyler Act on Friday morning. Sen. Kalani English from Maui says he introduced the bill at Tyler's request. Tyler owns a multimillion-dollar home in Maui. More than two-thirds of the state senators have co-sponsored the bill. English says the bill will spur celebrity tourism. Opponents say the bill could be unconstitutional. □

## CNN's Cooper skips trip to Dyngus Day fete



In this Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012 file photo, reporter Anderson Cooper arrives at CNN Heroes at The Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

**BUFFALO, New York (AP)** — CNN's Anderson Cooper won't be in Buffalo, New York, to celebrate the city's heritage on Dyngus

Day, a holiday that made his show's "Ridiculist" and left him giggling uncontrollably on the air last year. Dyngus Day is a Polish-American day-after-Easter tradition celebrating the end of Lent. It features people playfully sprinkling each other with water and swatting one another with pussy willows to show their amorous interest. Through a protracted fit of laughter last year, Cooper said, "It's so stupid, really so stupid." He later said he was referring to his giggling, not the holiday. Organizers set up a website to try to persuade Cooper to attend and offered to name him the festival's first pussy willow prince. □



This Feb. 12, 2012 file photo shows Fergie at the 54th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

## Breasts, buttocks banned by CBS from Grammys

**NEW YORK (AP)** — CBS is asking stars not to bare too much skin at the Grammy Awards on Sunday. The network requests that "buttocks and female breasts are adequately covered" for the televised award show. The memo sent out Wednesday also warned against "see-through clothing," exposure of "the genital region" and said that "thong type costumes are problematic." Representatives for CBS and the Recording Acad-

emy declined to comment on Thursday. Deadline Hollywood first reported the memo. CBS broadcast the infamous 2004 Super Bowl halftime show that included Janet Jackson's "wardrobe malfunction." The network was initially fined by the Federal Communications Commission, though the fine was later overturned. The 55th annual Grammy Awards will be held Sunday night at Los Angeles' Staples Center. □

## Braxton's autistic son stars with her in new movie



This Nov. 1, 2012 file photo shows singer and TV personality Toni Braxton at the Lupus LA's Hollywood Bag Ladies Luncheon in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

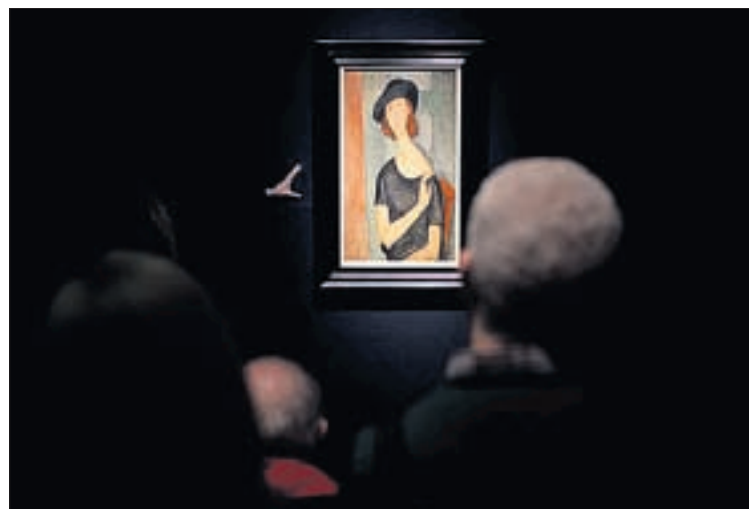
**NEKESA MUMBI MOODY**  
AP Entertainment Writer  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Toni Braxton's autistic son makes his acting debut in her new Lifetime movie, "Twist of Faith," and could have had a bigger role, but the singer didn't want to put too much pressure on him. "He was supposed to play my son initially but by the time we worked out the shooting schedule, school had started," Braxton said of 9-year-old Diezel. (She also has an 11-year-old named Denim.) "Even though he's considered high functioning right

now, he wasn't in the past, and that's why I thought him carrying the movie and trying to do the movie and tutoring would have been too much for him," the 45-year-old singer said. Braxton decided he should take a smaller role. "He was a little disappointed at first, but I think in the end, he's happy about the turnout," she said. Braxton understands the pressure. Although she has had small acting roles and stars in the WE reality TV series, "Braxton Family Values," which has its season premiere March 14, she is

the main star of "Twist of Faith" — and that makes her nervous. "I never had to carry anything before. It's a lot of work," she said of her role in the film, which debuts Saturday on Lifetime. "Singing is indigenous for me, but acting is not. I've had to work to prepare for it," said Braxton, adding later: "Be nice to me, guys! This is my first real acting debut! There are a few boo-boos. ... It's a lot more technical than I thought." Braxton is better known for her Grammy-winning, multiplatinum singing career, which has netted classics like "Un-break My Heart" and "Breathe Again." She said she's working on an album with longtime collaborator Babyface called "Love, Marriage, Divorce." She's also doing a few shows here and there, but she suffers from lupus, an autoimmune disease, which prevents her from doing more. Recently, she was hospitalized for blood clots, but Braxton considers herself one of the "lucky ones" and is grateful she can still have a career. "My doctors told me I would never be able to perform again," she said. "I'm very lucky that I'm still able to dabble in it a little bit." □



# Modigliani portrait sells for \$42 million in London



The gesturing hand of an expert speaking to a group of people is lit by a spotlight illuminating the painting entitled "Jeanne Hebuterne (Au chapeau)" by Italian artist Amedeo Modigliani at Christie's auction house in London, Friday, Feb. 1, 2013.

Associated Press

**JILL LAWLESS**

**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — The high-end art market is weathering Europe's economic storm, with London auctions this week netting more than 280 million pounds (\$440 million) as international bidders snapped up high-profile works.

Sales of Impressionist, modern and surrealist art at rival auctioneers Christie's and Sotheby's saw several pre-sale estimates shattered.

Judd Tully, editor-at-large of Art and Auction magazine, said Thursday that the two big auction houses had had "exceptionally strong sales."

"The art market seems to confound all other financial indicators," he said. "There is a lot of money sloshing around, and it's very global."

Christie's said "new and established buyers from 19 countries" snapped up works at a Wednesday sale that saw a portrait by Amedeo Modigliani sold to an anonymous telephone bidder for 26.9 million pounds (\$42.1 million), above its top estimate.

Modigliani's 1919 portrait of his lover Jeanne Hebuterne was the highlight of Christie's Impressionist and modern auctions, which raised a total of 136 million pounds (\$214 million).

"Apres le dejeuner" by 19th-century Impressionist Berthe Morisot sold for 6.9 million pounds (\$10.9 million), almost three times its high estimate and a record price for a female artist at auction.

A day earlier, Pablo Picasso's 1932 work "Woman Sitting Near a Window" — a portrait of the artist's "golden muse," Marie-Therese Walter — fetched 28.6 million pounds (\$45 million) at Sotheby's.

In total, Sotheby's Impressionist and modern sales raised 145 million pounds (\$228 million). Both auction houses held separate surrealist sales that brought strong prices for artists including Rene Magritte and Joan Miro. At Sotheby's, "The Farmer and his Wife," a vivid Miro canvas from 1936 once owned by filmmaker Billy Wilder, sold for just under 5.9 million pounds (\$9.3 million).

Salvador Dali's 1943 "Portrait of Mrs. Harrison Williams" — an image of a famous New York socialite who later became Countess Mona Bismarck — sold for just under 2.3 million pounds (\$3.6 million).

Works by Egon Schiele and Claude Monet also commanded high prices at the week's auctions, although some high-profile lots failed to meet their reserve prices. □



This Feb. 5, 2013 photo released by Starpix shows models, from left, Karolina Kurkova, Coco Rocha and Naomi Campbell, right, pose with photographer Nigel Barker at the premiere of the Oxygen network series, "The Face," in New York.

Associated Press

## Models on 'The Face' say tough skin is a must

**SAMANTHA CRITCHELL**

**AP Fashion Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A pretty face helps, but it's a tough skin that makes a model a success. Who better to teach that than Naomi Campbell?

On "The Face," the new Oxygen competition show about modeling that premieres Tuesday (9 p.m. EST), Campbell serves as a mentor and team leader. Karolina Kurkova and Coco Rocha also have their own teams, and each brings a different style to the studio.

But all three women, in separate interviews, said that learning to deal with rejection is often the deciding factor in a long career as a supermodel versus being a one-season catwalk wonder.

Campbell, who also gets an executive producer credit, said that from the show's creative start, she wanted it to be "more real than reality." (There are 12 finalists in the first episode. At the end of each episode, the commercial client in the challenge chooses someone for a job. The big prize is to be "the face" of Ulta Beauty.) Perhaps it's no surprise to anyone who has followed

Campbell's 27-year career that she doesn't pull any punches. "Everyone who knows me knows I am based on truth. Everything you see and hear from me, if I'm not happy with something, I say it."

Campbell adds: "I was lucky to learn how rejection feels at a young age since I started working at 5, so it didn't sting so much if I was rejected from a modeling job. It's not always that there's something wrong with you, and I wanted my girls to know that. It's not always personal, but it's not always right, either."

The tough love isn't for dramatic effect, however, says Rocha. The goal at the end of the season is to turn women onto successful career paths; women who might someday wear the label "supermodel."

Rocha says the one-word, one-name supermodel like "Naomi," "Kate" (Moss) or "Cindy" (Crawford) was tied to the industry heyday in the 1990s and would be really hard to recreate. "It was a time. Supermodels were to fashion like flappers were to dance."

Modern models need to be businesswomen, stylists, confident speakers and so-

cial-media whiz kids, says Kurkova, and it was her job to teach her team that not every day is a glamorous red carpet event or an energized catwalk show. "It's work," she says.

Still, it's important to have a full life, with other interests, because you'll bring all that to your look, says Kurkova, the only mom of the trio.

Nigel Barker, a photographer and image-maker, serves as sort of a host of "The Face," putting him on the other side of the judge's chair he occupied on Tyra Banks' "America's Next Top Model." The former model says it doesn't help to pull any punches because photo shoots and designer castings are like pressure cookers, and it doesn't help anyone, including the contestants, to have their hand held too much.

If anyone can groom them, it's Campbell, Rocha and Kurkova, Barker says. "Coco has all those moves. She's great to shoot, but her signature is that she's a chameleon. Naomi is Naomi and can work anything. Karolina is the sexy one. She can move those hips, but she's a mom and is identifiable." □



## India Vs. China Vs. Egypt



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN  
© 2013 New York Times

**NEW DELHI** – It's hard to escape a visit to India without someone asking you to compare it to China. This visit was no exception, but I think it's more revealing to widen the aperture and compare India, China and Egypt.

India has a weak central government but a really strong civil society, bubbling with elections and associations at every level. China has a muscular central government but a weak civil society, yet one that is clearly straining to express itself more. Egypt, alas, has a weak government and a very weak civil society, one that was suppressed for 50 years, denied real elections and, therefore, is easy prey to have its revolution diverted by the one group that could organize, the Muslim Brotherhood, in the one free space, the mosque. But there is one thing all three have in common: gigantic youth bulges under the age of 30, increasingly connected by technology but very unevenly educated.

My view: Of these three, the one that will thrive the most in the 21st century will be the one that is most successful at converting its youth bulge into a "demographic dividend" that keeps paying off every decade, as opposed to a "demographic bomb" that keeps going off every decade. That will be the society that provides more of its youth with the education, jobs and voice they seek to realize their full potential.

This race is about "who can enable and inspire more of its youth to help build broad societal prosperity," argues Dov Seidman, the author of "How" and CEO of LRN, which has an operating center in India. "And that's all about leaders, parents and teachers creating environments where young people can be on a quest, not just for a job, but for a career – for a better life that doesn't just surpass but far surpasses their parents." Countries that fail to do that will have a youth bulge that is not only unemployed but unemployable, he argued. "They will be disconnected in a connected world, despairing as they watch others build and realize their potential and curiosity."

If your country has either a strong government or a strong civil society, it has the ability to rise to this challenge. If

it has neither, it will have real problems, which is why Egypt is struggling. China leads in providing its youth bulge with education, infrastructure and jobs, but lags in unleashing freedom and curiosity. India is the most intriguing case – if it can get its governance and corruption under control. The quest for upward mobility here, especially among women and girls, is palpable. I took part in the graduation ceremony for The Energy and Resources Institute last week. Of 12 awards for the top students, 11 went to women.

"India today has 560 million young people under the age of 25 and 225 million between the ages of 10 and 19," explained Shashi Tharoor, India's minister of state for human resource development. "So for the next 40 years we should have a youthful working-age population" at a time when China and the broad industrialized world is aging.

Indeed, some of India's disaffected youth are turning to Maoism in rural areas.

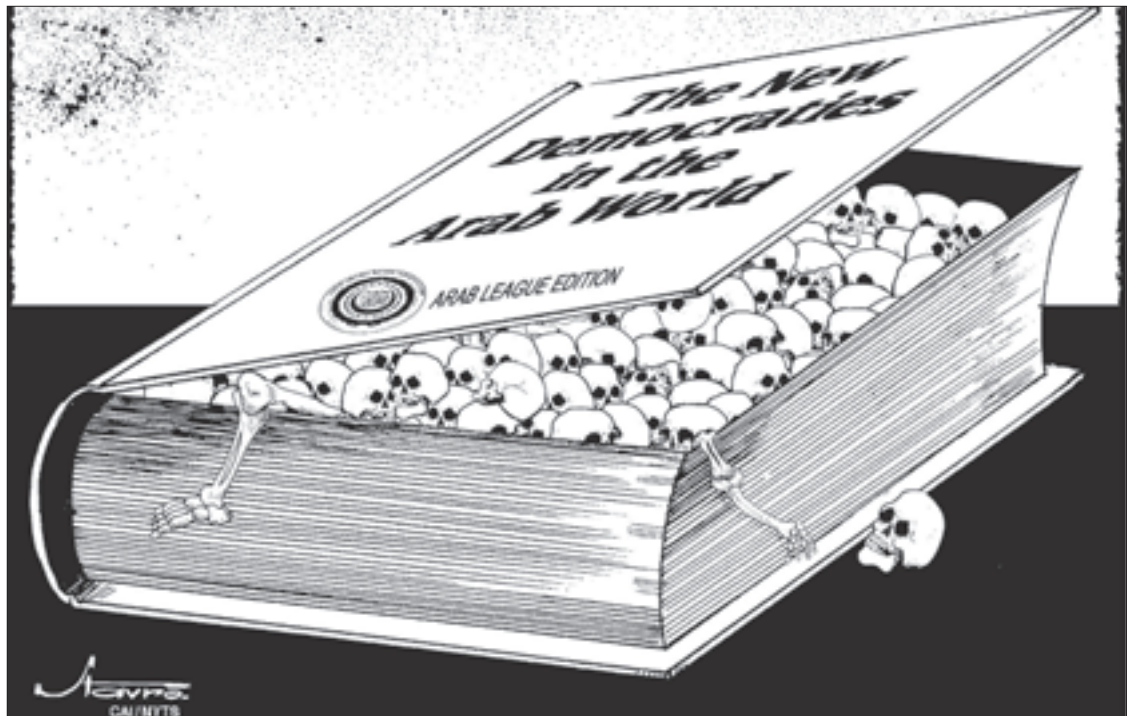
"We have Maoists among our tribal populations, who have not benefited from the opportunities of modern India," Tharoor said.

There have been violent Maoist incidents in 165 of India's 625 districts in recent years, as Maoists tap into all those left out of the "Indian dream." So there is now a huge push here to lure poor kids into school. India runs the world's biggest midday lunch program, serving 250 million free school lunches each day. It's also doubled its number of Indian Institutes of Technology, from eight to 16, and is planning 14 new universities for innovation and research.

But this will all be for naught without better governance, argues Gurcharan Das, the former CEO of Procter & Gamble India, whose latest book is "India Grows at Night: A Liberal Case for a Strong State." "The aspirational India has no one to vote for, because no one is talking the language of public goods. Why should it take us 15 years to get justice in the courts or 12 years to build a road? The gap between ((youth)) aspirations and government performance is huge. My thesis is that India has risen despite the state. It is a story of public failure and private success."

That is what Das means by India grows at night, when government sleeps.

"But India must learn to grow during the day," he said. "If India fixes its governance before China fixes its politics that is who will win. ... You need a strong state and a strong society, so the society can hold the state accountable. India will only get a strong state when the best of society join the government, and China will only get a strong society when the best Mandarins go into the private sector." □



## The Philosophy Of Data



DAVID BROOKS  
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If you asked me to describe the rising philosophy of the day, I'd say it is data-ism. We now have the ability to gather huge amounts of data. This ability seems to carry with it certain cultural assumptions – that everything that can be measured should be measured; that data is a transparent and reliable lens that allows us to filter out emotionalism and ideology; that data will help us do remarkable things – like foretell the future. Over the next year, I'm hoping to get a better grip on some of the questions raised by the data revolution: In what situations should we rely on intuitive pattern recognition and in which situations should we ignore intuition and follow the data? What kinds of events are predictable using statistical analysis and what sorts of events are not?

I confess I enter this in a skeptical frame of mind, believing that we tend to get carried away in our desire to reduce everything to the quantifiable. But at the outset let me celebrate two things data does really well.

First, it's really good at exposing when our intuitive view of reality is wrong. For example, every person who plays basketball and nearly every person who watches it believes that players go through hot streaks, when they are in the groove, and cold streaks,

when they are just not feeling it. But Thomas Gilovich, Amos Tversky and Robert Vallone found that a player who has made six consecutive foul shots has the same chance of making his seventh as if he had missed the previous six foul shots.

When a player has hit six shots in a row, we imagine that he has tapped into some elevated performance groove. In fact, it's just random statistical noise, like having a coin flip come up tails repeatedly. Each individual shot's success rate will still devolve back to the player's career shooting percentage. Similarly, nearly every person who runs for political office has an intuitive sense that they can powerfully influence their odds of winning the election if they can just raise and spend more money. But this, too, is largely wrong. The data show that in state and national elections that are well-financed, television ad buys barely matter. After the 2004 election, political scientists tried to measure the effectiveness of campaign commercials. They found that if one candidate ran 1,000 more commercials than his opponent in a county – a huge disproportion – that translated into a paltry 0.19 percent advantage in the vote. After the 2006 election, Sean Trende constructed a graph comparing the incumbent campaign spending advantages with their eventual margins of victory. There was barely any relationship between more spending and a bigger victory.

In May and June 2012, the Obama campaign unleashed a giant ad barrage against Mitt Romney, but as political scientist John Sides wrote in The New York Times' FiveThirtyEight blog recently, the ads had no lasting effect.

Likewise, many teachers have an intuitive sense that different students have different learning styles: Some are verbal and some are visual; some

are linear, some are holistic. Teachers imagine they will improve outcomes if they tailor their presentations to each student. But there's no evidence to support this either.

Second, data can illuminate patterns of behavior we haven't yet noticed. For example, I've always assumed that people who frequently use words like "I," "me" and "mine" are probably more egotistical than people who don't. But as James Pennebaker of the University of Texas notes in his book, "The Secret Life of Pronouns," when people are feeling confident, they are focused on the task at hand, not on themselves. High status, confident people use fewer "I" words, not more. Pennebaker analyzed the Nixon tapes. Nixon used few "I" words early in his presidency but used many more after the Watergate scandal ravaged his self-confidence. Rudy Giuliani used few "I" words through his mayoralty but used many more later, during the two weeks when his cancer was diagnosed and his marriage dissolved. Barack Obama, a self-confident person, uses fewer "I" words than any other modern president. Our brains often don't notice subtle verbal patterns, but Pennebaker's computers can. Younger writers use more downbeat and past-tense words than older writers who use more positive and future-tense words. Liars use more upbeat words like "pal" and "friend" but fewer excluding words like "but," "except" and "without." (When you are telling a false story, it's hard to include the things you did not see or think about.)

We think of John Lennon as the most intellectual of the Beatles, but, in fact, Paul McCartney's lyrics had more flexible and diverse structures and George Harrison's were more cognitively complex.

In sum, the data revolution is giving us wonderful ways to understand the present and the past. Will it transform our ability to predict and make decisions about the future? We'll see. □



# Warm up a wintery night with a hearty artisan polenta



**A bowl of polenta, center, with butter and cheese. Polenta is basically cornmeal mush, and you can make it with any kind of cornmeal.**  
(Owen Franken/The New York Times)

## DAVID TANIS

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I'm always in the mood for polenta. Furthermore, I always make it from scratch, stirring a pot of good cornmeal slowly over a low flame. Yes, there is instant polenta, and the packaged type in plastic tubes – shun them. You wouldn't buy instant coffee, would you? Polenta is basically cornmeal mush, and you can make it with any kind of cornmeal. Italian groceries stock the best brands, which can be ground coarse, medium or fine, all of which have the potential to be delicious. As with most ingredients, the better the cornmeal, the better the polenta.

The trick is cooking it for a sufficient amount of time (most people don't). You must allow the cornmeal to swell and become fully cooked. That way, you emphasize the sweet corn flavor; uncooked cornmeal has an unpleasant bitter taste.

There's no getting around the fact that you need nearly an hour to make real polenta, but it's not such a chore. It does need a little nursing, but once you get the hang of it, you can almost do it in your sleep. Then you can start riffing.

In Italy, I've had a humble slice of polenta served with a meaty ragu in Bologna and cuttlefish stew in Vi-

areggio. In Venice I had an extravagant dish in which polenta was adorned with black truffles and quail eggs. I offer a simple suggestion to start with here: baking the polenta with a rich stuffing of spinach and cheese. Let's talk a little bit more about how to cook it. I like to use the technique employed by grandmothers all over Italy: Bring a pot of water to a rapid boil and slowly pour in the cornmeal, whisking for 3 to 5 minutes until it thickens. Turn the flame very low, and let the polenta bubble gently. As the mixture cooks, it actually speaks, making little puffing sounds while sputtering air at the surface. Despite what fanatics will advise, I stir it only every 10 minutes or so, or when I think of it, as opposed to constantly. The main thing is to check the moisture and to make sure it's cooking evenly; if the polenta gets too thick, it won't cook properly. Depending upon the cornmeal you use, you may need to stir in a little more water from time to time. The general proportions of water to cornmeal are 5-to-1 for soft polenta (best in a bowl topped with butter and Parmesan) and 4-to-1 for firm (best for grilling, baking or frying).

All of this is to say that making a fine pot of polenta is well within your grasp,

even if you're not an Italian grandmother.

## BASIC POLENTA

Time: About an hour

Salt and pepper

1 cup medium or fine cornmeal

Butter

Parmesan for soft polenta, optional

1. For firm polenta use 4 cups water; for soft polenta use 5 cups water. Bring water to a boil in a medium-size heavy sauce pan over high heat. Add 1 teaspoon salt. Pour cornmeal slowly into water, stirring with a wire whisk or wooden spoon. Continue stirring as mixture thickens, 2 to 3

minutes.

2. Turn heat to low. Cook for at least 45 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes or so. If polenta becomes quite thick, thin it with 1/2 cup water, stir well and continue cooking. Add up to 1 cup more water as necessary, to keep polenta soft enough to stir. Put a spoonful on a plate, let it cool, then taste. Grains should be swollen and taste cooked, not raw. Adjust salt and add pepper if you wish.

3. For firm polenta, lightly butter a baking sheet or shallow dish, approximately 8 1/2 by 11 inches. Carefully pour polenta into pan. Using a spatula, spread polenta to a thickness of 3/4 inch. Cool to room temperature to allow polenta to solidify. Cover and refrigerate for up to 3 days. For soft polenta, add 6 tablespoons butter to pot and stir well. Serve immediately or transfer to a double boiler set over low heat, cover and keep warm for up to an hour or so. (Or set the saucepan in a pot of barely simmering water.) Stir well before spooning into low soup bowls. Sprinkle with Parmesan, if desired.

Yield: 6 servings

## POLENTA AL FORNO WITH SPINACH, RICOTTA AND FONTINA

Time: About 1 1/2 hours

1 pound spinach

2 cups ricotta

Salt and pepper

Pinch cayenne

1 teaspoon lemon zest

1/4 cup grated Parmesan

4 ounces fontina or Swiss cheese, grated (about 2 cups)

2 tablespoons butter

Basic soft polenta (see recipe), kept warm

1. Blanch spinach briefly in a large pot of boiling water, 1 to 2 minutes. Drain and cool. Squeeze all excess moisture from spinach and roughly chop.

2. In a large bowl, combine chopped spinach and ricotta. Season with salt and pepper, then add cayenne, lemon zest, half the Parmesan and all but 2 tablespoons of the fontina and stir well.

3. Butter a 9-by-12-inch casserole dish. Ladle in half of the warm, soft polenta and spread with a spatula to make a thin layer. Spoon spinach mixture evenly over it. Top with remaining soft polenta and spread to smooth the surface. (May be made ahead up to this point, then covered and refrigerated. Bring to room temperature before baking.)

4. Sprinkle with remaining Parmesan and fontina. Bake, uncovered, at 375 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes, until nicely browned. Remove from oven and let rest for 10 minutes before serving.

Yield: 6 to 8 servings. □



**A dish of polenta baked with ricotta and fontina can warm up an otherwise cool evening!**  
(Owen Franken/The New York Times)